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## Columnists write

### Reagan shuns Israel in sale of AWACS

**By Bob Lebling**  
*Washington Bureau*

WASHINGTON, April 24 — President Ronald Reagan decided this week to press ahead with the planned sale of AWACS radar aircraft to Saudi Arabia after five of his top advisers argued that Israel could not be allowed to have a veto over U.S. policy in the Middle East, according to a report published here Friday.

The advisers who persuaded Reagan to go forward with the sale were Presidential Counselor Edwin Meese, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Central Intelligence Director William Casey and Vice President George Bush, said syndicated columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak.

While initial momentum for the AWACS sale was generated by Weinberger and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General David Jones, the president's counselor Meese took the lead last week in persuading Reagan to proceed with the sale, the columnists said.

"Reagan himself showed no doubts about proceeding," Evans and Novak said, "nor self-deception about the political trouble he now faces in avoiding a congressional veto."

"But down deep, the president believes that, after a delay of a few months, he can persuade Congress that he knows more about America's 'interests' in the Gulf area than Israel does," Evans and Novak said.

Reagan's top advisers told the president that to change his mind about the AWACS sale would bring the beginning of the end of the U.S.-Saudi Arabian alliance, "a fact not disputed by military or diplomatic specialists here," the columnists said.

April 21, Meese arranged a conference telephone call with Haig and Weinberger to plan the statement on the AWACS sale.

to be released by the White House later in the day.

"Meese's personal involvement resolved doubts about Reagan's own intent to make Saudi Arabia a full partner" in efforts to protect the oil resources of the Gulf, Evans and Novak said.

Speaking to the members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, U.S. Vice President George Bush said Thursday the sale of advanced warning aircraft to Saudi Arabia threatened neither the United States nor its allies, including Israel.

Bush said "I think we've looked at it carefully enough to think we've made the right move in terms of our own best interest of the United States and the best interests of our allies in that part of the world, including the state of Israel." Israel has expressed misgivings about the sale of the warning aircraft.

Meanwhile, Senators Alan Cranston, Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Alfonse d'Amato said the administration should not turn over the AWACS to Saudi Arabia because it could use the planes against Israel.

Cranston told the Association for a Better New York Thursday he thought it would be "unwise to take that step against our staunch ally in the Middle East." Moynihan said he was "alarmed" that the sale of AWACS could diminish Israel's technological edge over its neighbors because it would allow Saudi Arabia to monitor all of Israel's air-space.

The Kingdom's Oil Minister Sheikh Yamani said in New York he had "no doubts" the United States will sell five AWACS to Saudi Arabia despite opposition from Israel and some members of Congress, which has the power to veto the deal.

He said the Israelis oppose the sale because they "don't want anyone to monitor their movements," and want to be able to mount a surprise attack. "It is a defensive instrument, rather than an offensive instrument," continued on back page.



**WOMEN CANDIDATES:** Three of the 10 candidates running in the first round of the two-stage French presidential elections are women, a record in France and probably elsewhere. At least two think their presence is a victory for all French women. The three are from left to right Arlette Laguiller of the Trotskyite workers force, Huguette Bouchardeau of the small splinter United Socialist Party and Marie France Garand, former aide to the late President George Pompidou who belongs to no party.

## Poll drive ends

### Chirac poses serious threat to Mitterrand for 2nd place

PARIS, April 24 (AP) — As the campaign for the first round in the French presidential election closed Friday, the big question was whether Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac's gathering momentum would propel him to a second-place finish this weekend.

Under French law, if no candidate wins an absolute majority in the first round Sunday, the two top vote-getters are pitted in a runoff two weeks later if the polls give none of the 10 candidates more than 27 percent of the vote, making a runoff certain.

For months, the conventional wisdom has predicted a May 10 contest between President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who is seeking a second seven-year term, and Socialist rival Francois Mitterrand — a repeat of the 1974 election. But Chirac's steady rise in recent polls is giving many pundits second thoughts about the chances of the 48-year-old Gaullist.

Because the publication of public soundings is prohibited during the last week of the campaign, it is difficult to assess Chirac's strength. But a major poll published last week showed Giscard winning 27.5 percent of the vote, Mitterrand 22 percent, Chirac 19.5 percent and Communist Party leader Georges Marchais with 18.5 percent.

Those figures marked a decline of 1.5 percent for the president and two percent for Mitterrand, while showing Chirac gaining 3.5 points. Adding to the uncertainty is another survey indicating that as many as 19 percent of the voters could change their minds by Sunday.

Of major concern to the "big four" is how many votes the minor candidates will draw away.

The minor candidates are Mechel Debré, a former prime minister under de Gaulle, Marie-France Garaud, 47, who acted as political adviser to the late President Pompidou and later to Chirac, Michel Crepeau, a 50-year-old attorney who heads the radical left movement, Huguette Bouchardeau, 46, a feminist representing the Unified Socialist Party, Arlette Laguiller, the 41-year-old leader of the Trotskyist Workers Struggle, and Brice Lalonde, 35, an independent.

### Bank rifled by insiders, say officials

TUCSON, Arizona, April 24 (AP) — Bank officials have indicated the \$3.3 million robbery of a First National Bank of Arizona branch — largest cash bank robbery in the United States history — may have been an "inside job." And a newspaper reported police had suspects in the case.

A bank spokesman said an audit determined that \$3.3 million cash was taken in Wednesday's holdup shortly before the bank opened for business. He said the audit was made to end speculation about how much money was taken. At first the bank declined comment on the amount.

Sources close to the case, who asked not to be identified, said the methods used and the robbers' comments during the robbery suggest the likelihood of an inside job. "Do we think it's an inside job?" bank vice president said in Phoenix. "That possibility is never ruled out in any robbery."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and police refused to comment on the copyright report in the Tucson citizen that authorities have suspects in the case, but one FBI agent told the paper the robbers definitely had come into Arizona from out of state. Investigators told the newspaper that two of the gunmen may have been convicted bank robbers and murderers from California who had been in Phoenix until the last week or two, then came to Tucson. One investigator said the way the robbers operated "is nothing of the caliber of what we've had in Tucson before."

The robbers, wearing Halloween and stocking masks and operating from a van painted to resemble a telephone company truck, jumped janitor Charles Virgil in the bank parking lot, then captured bank manager John Grainger investigators said. They threatened to kill both men and their wives unless the Grainger opened the vault where cash for the bank's other branches is kept overnight, police said, and Grainger complied.

In less than 20 minutes, they stuffed the cash inside into a black laundry-type bag,

### Tokyo is world's costliest city

GENEVA, April 24 (R) — Tokyo is the world's most expensive city, with London the dearest in Europe and the Scandinavian capitals not far behind, according to *Business International's* annual survey. Taking New York as the base city with a cost-of-living index of 100, the Swiss-based business research company said the Japanese capital now had an index of 160.4, displacing Lagos (152.1), which was at top of last year's list.

*Business International* gave the rest of the 10, as: Buenos Aires (141.5), London (133.6), Oslo (128.9), Abidjan (128), Stockholm (127.8), Helsinki (123.6), Vienna (120.2), and Zurich (120.1).

Geneva, Copenhagen and Paris came next but New York itself was well down the list, topped by cities such as Melbourne, Frankfurt, Brussels and Singapore.

### U.K. staff rejects talks on demands

LONDON, April 24 (R) — Leaders of Britain's civil servants Thursday rejected government proposals for talks aimed at resolving a seven-week pay dispute. Lord Soames, minister in charge of negotiations with the 530,000 staff, refused in a meeting Thursday to increase a seven per cent offer, union sources said.

After the meeting, a union committee said it could not accept the minister's invitation to further talks. The nine unions are seeking 15 per cent increases on salaries averaging \$11,000 a year. Union leaders said it now seemed nothing could stop serious disruption of Britain's air services.

They said 3,000 air traffic controllers would start disruptive action next Monday.

### Yamani urges peace move

## Kingdom foregoes \$1.9b in U.S. favor

NEW YORK, April 24 (R) — Saudi Arabia voluntarily foregoes \$1.9 billion every year in favor of the United States oil imports, Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani said here.

Speaking to about 1,000 persons Thursday at a luncheon of the Foreign Policy Association, the minister noted that the United States imports 1.3 million barrels of oil a day from Saudi Arabia. "This means that Saudi Arabia is voluntarily foregoing \$1.9 billion annually in favor of the USA," the minister said.

"We think that the price of oil went over the level necessary to help you to conserve and invest in alternative sources of energy," Yamani said.

Sheikh Yamani stressed the importance of Saudi Arabia to the United States, noting that it elevated oil production level has prevented oil prices from rising above present levels. He said that Saudi Arabia, which charges by far the lowest price for oil in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, believed OPEC price unity would be regained but this might not happen at the group's Geneva meeting in May.

Yamani said that Saudi Arabia's friendship with the United States had been proved by its high production of oil and its willingness to sell that oil for \$32 a barrel, \$4 or more below the price charged by most other oil-exporting countries.

He said, however, the lack of American action to help create Arab-Israeli peace is the largest source of Saudi Arabian disillusionment with the United States, Yamani said.

"To the Saudis, there are only two threats in this world international communism and Israel," Sheikh Yamani said. "The first," he added, "the first helps to reinforce our friendship with America, while the second is a threat to that friendship. It is difficult to conceive of a compromise in a situation like this."

The minister said America's support of

Israel left the Saudi Arabian friendship with the United States "tinged with some bitterness." He said his country was dismayed over "America's turning a blind eye to Israel's behavior in Jerusalem." "Unless the American administration makes a timely move to bring about peace, things will get out of hand and the area will explode, American and Western interests will suffer untold losses as a result," he said.

Saudi Arabian believes that peace will not be achieved without an energetic U.S. contribution, the minister said, adding that the U.S. role will sooner or later become more positive. This would happen either as a shift in American public opinion, or as a result of international moves being initiated by Europe and other allies of the United States. "Both developments will be encouraged by the growing power of the Arab world in various fields," Sheikh Yamani said.

He said the possibilities for cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the United States appear unlimited. "The only obstacle to making this state of affairs a reality is the Arab-Israeli problem, the most acute aspect of which is the plight of the Palestinian people on who have been denied their basic right to self-determination," he said.

Sheikh Yamani's comments on Arab-Israeli peace were his sharpest words for some time on the U.S. position. He said Saudi Arabians "find it strange that the American Jewish community should continue its blind support for Israel at a time that a rare opportunity for peace came by..."

"We also believe that Russia stands to gain from the present situation and that Israeli policies, particularly those of the current government, are at one with Russian policies." The United States serves Soviet interests in refraining from performing its duty to bring peace, he said.

The minister said the Middle East would explode unless the United States moved to bring about Arab-Israeli peace.

## Warns against aggression

### U.S. lifts grain embargo on Russia

WASHINGTON, April 24 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan said Friday he is lifting the grain embargo against the Soviet Union.

In a statement read to reporters at the White House, the president said he was lifting the embargo "after weighing all options carefully and conferring fully with my advisers."

Read by Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes, the statement also referred to Reagan's opposition as a presidential candidate to the embargo and said the decision to lift the ban was delayed out of conviction that

the Soviets might "mistakenly think it indicated weakening of our position."

But he added that from now on there could be no misunderstanding of America's position — the United States, with the vast majority of other countries, condemned and opposed the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and other acts of aggression in the world. Reagan said that the U.S. will react firmly to any act of the embargo was imposed by former President Carter following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979.

## Starts April 27

### Schmidt's visit to deepen ties

**By Elias Haddad**

JEOOAH, April 24 — Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of the Federal Republic of Germany will arrive in Riyadh April 27 on a three-day official visit.

The chancellor comes to the Kingdom at the invitation of Crown Prince Fahd for talks on bilateral relations and a host of international issues.

It will be the second visit of Schmidt to Saudi Arabia since 1976, two years after he was elected to Germany's top executive post.

Official German statistics released here Friday showed that the two-way trade grew from DM7.5 billion in 1976 to DM14.18 billion in 1980. The balance of trade, heavily in favor of Saudi Arabia, however is blamed on German oil imports which reached OM9.72 billion last year. Exports to the Kingdom, led by heavy machinery and automobiles, were estimated at OM4.27 billion in the same year.

The official Saudi Press Agency Friday lauded the deepening relations between the two friendly nations. It quoted Minister of Finance and National Economy Sheikh

Muhammad Aba Al Khaif as saying that German exports to the Kingdom grew 25 times between 1972 and 1979 and imports 40 per cent in the same period.

Contracts signed by German firms in Saudi Arabia were worth SR24 billion and joint ventures totaled \$8 at a capital of SR3 billion in the same period, the minister added.

German expatriates in the Kingdom, which number between 15,000 and 20,000, participate in the building of heavy industrial projects and infrastructural work. Some 250 German companies are permanently represented here and contribute significantly to the Kingdom economic development, according to a press statement released here Friday.

Also Saudi Arabian capital investment in the Federal Republic totaled DM7.8 million in 1980, with most of the investment going into the German building industry and overseas trade.

Officials here expect Schmidt's visit to further bilateral relations in various fields. German capital investment in Saudi Arabia is also expected to "continue briskly."

## On economic issues

### Sabah holds talks with Arkhipov

MOSCOW, April 24 (AP) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, opened talks in Moscow Friday with Soviet first deputy Premier Minister Ivan Arkhipov, the Soviet News Agency Tass reported.

Sheikh Sabah, arrived in the Soviet capital Thursday night for talks expected to concentrate on Gulf, Arab-Israeli and economic issues.

Sources said Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko was expected to hold talks with the Kuwaiti minister Friday afternoon.

Sabah is scheduled to leave Moscow Saturday morning.

deputy Premier Minister Ivan Arkhipov, the Soviet News Agency Tass reported.

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Development given priority

# OIC reviews cultural activities

By a Special Correspondent

JAKARTA, April 24 — The recently held 7th session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs reviewed the cultural, educational and social activities of the Islamic Conference Organization and adopted a series of recommendations for consolidating these links among member states.

A new project under consideration is the planned Islamic Fiqh Academy, the establishment of which was approved by the Third Islamic Summit. This important and ambitious project requires the collection of material

## Prince Talal to visit India

RIYADH, April 24 — Prince Talal ibn Abdul Aziz, honorary assistant secretary general of the United Nations and UNICEF special envoy, will leave Riyadh on May 26th for a two-day official visit to India, a UNICEF press statement said.

During the visit he will meet Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India, and a number of ministers and high officials in the India government to discuss questions concerning children and development. He will visit some projects and programs supervised by UNICEF in India.

Prince Talal also is expected to pay a similar two-day official visit to Kenya shortly after his visit to India during the first week of May, the Riyadh UNICEF office reported. He will meet President Arap Moi of Kenya, and a number of high officials of the country. He also will visit some UNICEF projects.

and information on the development of scientific research in the field of Islamic Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence). The Makkah-based Rabeta e alam Islami is reported to have collected a good deal of material in this field and will be coordinating its experiences with the OIC General Secretariat. The OIC is holding a meeting of experts and scholars from April 18 to help assist in the early establishment of this project.

The Commission fully supported aid to the Islamic Foundation for science, technology and development, which will encourage scientific studies and research and devise a strategy to develop science and technology beneficial to OIC member states. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has already announced a donation of \$15.00 million to this project. Other countries, including Indonesia, have indicated their preparedness to help in the establishment of the Science Foundation at an early date.

The Commission also reviewed the progress of ongoing projects such as the International Commission of the Islamic Heritage and the preservation of historical Islamic cities. This agency is already involved in preserving and restoring monuments and relics in Mauritania, Mali, Tunisia and Morocco. The Indonesian government has announced plans to restore and preserve the mosque and other Islamic sites in the historic town of Demak.

Under the auspices of the OIC, work is underway on setting up Islamic universities and centers in Africa and Asia. These include a university in Niger and another one in Uganda, the Islamic center in Guinea Bissau, the Ahmed Baba Institute for Islamic research and studies in Timbuktu, Mali, and an Islamic Translation Institute in the Sudan.

The teaching of Arabic and the propagation of Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking OIC member states has recently been stressed and an exchange program of teachers and Arabic text books and literature has commenced. The development of bilateral programs in this field are being encouraged as well. Delegates to the Jakarta meeting are said to have agreed that this program should be stepped up as it will benefit the Muslim people and enable them to have a better grasp and understanding of their traditions and rich cultural heritage.

Other subjects now receiving attention are the establishment of an International Islamic Law commission, the creation of a Faculty for Sharia and Islamic Studies, and the development of the Islamic Commission of the International Crescent. Studies are also underway under the aegis of the OIC for unifying of the dates of the lunar calendar and of Islamic feasts. Presently, these dates vary from country to country.

Along with political and economic activities, the Organization of the Islamic Conference appears to be giving special attention to the development of cultural and social cooperation among its member states and observers feel it has achieved good results in this endeavor. The Third Islamic Summit too showed special interest in cultural matters and adopted a number of resolutions. Although the Islamic world is spread from the shores of the Atlantic to the end of the Java sea, and includes countries with diverse cultures and different languages, they all share the same common faith and sentiment, and are bound by historical ties.

## Japan honors diplomat

TOKYO, April 24 — Hamad Mansour Al-Hajiri, the ambassador of Qatar in Japan during the past eight years, was honored with Japan's top award by Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito on behalf of the government of Japan for distinguished diplomatic services. Al-Hajiri has been the dean of Arab Islamic diplomats and acting dean of the diplomatic corps in Japan. The outgoing Qatari ambassador is the first diplomat to be honored with this meritorious award.

## Korean ambassador lauds Saudi Arabian efforts

By Javid Hassan

JEDDAH, April 24 — Korean ambassador, Yoo-Joon Chang, lauded the Saudi Arabian government for its attitude in fostering better relations between the two countries.

He made the remark during the Korea Night Festival here Thursday to celebrate the

installation of Chun Doo-Hwan, 12th president of South Korea, last month. Speaking on the occasion, the Korean ambassador said the event also was a way to extend the countries' fraternal relationship to the cultural, economic and technical fields.

Korean Embassy officials have reported a 25 per cent increase in exports from \$800 million in 1979 to \$1 billion last year. They

said construction material like factory paint and plywood constituted 45 per cent of all exports. The other items were textiles and bulk cement. Korean imports from the Kingdom — mainly petroleum — are valued at \$2 billion.

Apart from exports, construction contracts in the Kingdom are another major source of foreign exchange for Korea.

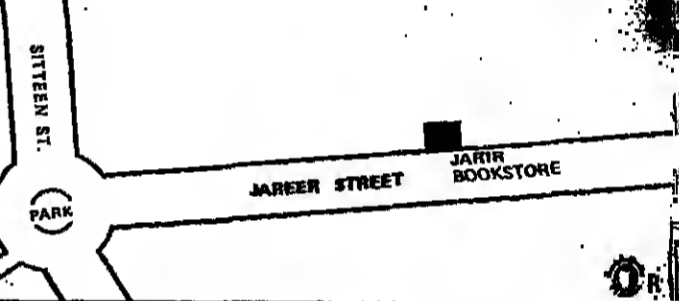
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Assr (Evening)	3.41	3.48	3.19	3.09	3.33	4.06
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.45	6.49	6.20	6.09	6.34	7.06
Isha (Night)	8.15	8.19	7.50	7.39	8.04	8.36

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In Apicorp

# Arab investors net SR133m profit

By a Staff Writer

AL KHOBAR, April 24 — The Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation made a profit of SR133 million during the year ending last January, according to the managing director, Jamal Hassan Jawa, who is also the deputy governor of Petromin.

Apicorp is made up of the Kingdom, Kuwait, the U.A.E., Iraq, Qatar, Syria and Libya and was formed to invest in petroleum-related projects. Jawa said the board recently approved a number of projects including the establishment of a detergent plant in Iraq at a cost of 72 million Iraqi dinars, of which the company will pay 25 per

cent. The member countries will contribute the remaining capital. It has also approved in principle the formation of an Arab joint venture for the production of an octane booster, a protocol for cooperation with the Tunisian government and participation with Libya in a company to drill and maintain artesian wells. The company already has started making money and decided to extend its services to other Arab states.

Apicorp took a 12 per cent share in the equity of a Bahraini company to produce liquid gas and a 10 per cent share in the equity of a Jordanian chemical fertilizer industry and offered it a \$20 million loan to help boost its production, which is due to start next year.

Jawa said the company extended \$122 million in loans to Algeria, Tunisia and the U.A.E. and will build a plant in Libya for the production of STPP, a petroleum byproduct, with a capacity for 50,000 tons a year at a cost of \$200 million. After meeting the demands of the local market the plant will export the surplus. Plant capacity can be doubled in the future.

The company also is preparing a feasibility study for a lubricating oil plant to be set up in Yanbu with a projected capacity of 200,000 tons a year in its first phase. This will be done in cooperation with Petromin, he said.

The board has approved in principle the creation of a joint venture for the production of an octane booster (MTBE) to be produced from butane and methanol. A memorandum of understanding with AGIP and Snamprogetti (Italian ENI group) for conducting a detailed technical and marketing feasibility study was signed for the project.

## Ahmad goes to UAE

RIYADH, April 24 (SPA) — Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmad will leave for Abu Dhabi Saturday on a five-day visit to the UAE at the invitation of his counterpart. Prince Ahmad will meet with President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan Sunday and visit homicide laboratories and other military institutions.

He also will meet Sheikh Rashed bin Said Al-Maktoum, the vice-president and prime minister, in Dubai Monday. Prince Ahmad will visit the emirates of Sharja, Ajman, Umm Al-Quwain, Ras Al-Khaimah and Fujairah before concluding his visit.

# Arab-American talks feature former envoy

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 24 — The National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) announced that John C. West, America's former ambassador to Saudi Arabia for the past 3 1/2 years, will be part of a distinguished lineup of participants at the organization's Ninth Annual Convention, to be held at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

West, who has just completed his tour, attracted press attention recently as a result of his quoted observation that there would be "stalemate" in U.S.-Arab relations unless and until the PLO is brought into discussions on the Palestine question, an NAAA press statement said Friday.

West will participate beginning May 7, in a panel discussion on American economic and strategic interests in the Middle East, along with Andrew Killgore, former U.S. ambassador to Qatar; veteran British journalist Michael Adams, now Editor of *Middle East*

*International* (London); and Marwan Iskandar, editorial analyst for *Al-Nahar* newspaper in Beirut.

Other panels will address the issues of Lebanon and the PLO and will feature Middle East specialists from academic and official circles.

A special guest will be Bassam Skakaa, the nationalist mayor of the city of Nablus in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, who lost both his legs as a result of a car bomb explosion last year. Mayor Skakaa's participation is contingent on the Israeli military authorities' giving him travel permission, which they have been reluctant to do because of the positive-impression made by Mayor Skakaa abroad.

Other activities at the convention will include a "Thank You, Algeria" luncheon May 9, honoring Algeria for its role in helping free the American hostages in Tehran, and featuring Algeria's ambassador to

Washington, Redha Maïek, who personally took part in the negotiations. There will also be a gala presentation of "Fashion Through the Ages," performed by a Jordanian folk troupe exhibiting costumes spanning 3,000 years of Middle Eastern history. The troupe presented the show before the Arab heads of state at the recent summit conference in Amman, Jordan and will be brought to the United States on their first trip by Alia, The Royal Jordanian Airline.

NAAA is a Washington-based organization addressing issues of social and political concern to the two million Americans of Arab ancestry. The San Francisco Chapter of NAAA is providing local coordination for the convention.

## BRIEFS

**Majed to open fair**  
JEDDAH, April 24 (SPA) — Makkah Governor Prince Majed will open the Faisaliyah Women's Welfare Society's fifth annual exhibition here Wednesday. The exhibition will comprise the second Saudi Arabian bookfair. Several male and female persons of letters will participate in the fair which will also display newspapers, magazines, historic books, rare pieces of calligraphy, and rare pictures of the late King Abdul Aziz, the late King Faisal and King Khaled. The show will last one week.

**Geology Congress**  
JEDDAH, April 24 (SPA) — A geological congress will be held here next February to compare pre-historic stones. The congress is organized by King Abdul Aziz University. Delegates will come from countries having similar geological conditions as Saudi Arabia such as Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Egypt and most African countries.

**Hill company increases capital**  
HAJIL, April 24 (SPA) — The capital of Hill Agriculture Development Company was raised Wednesday to SR300 million to give a chance to the largest possible number of citizens to buy shares. The decision was taken at a meeting of the company's founding members presided over by Prince Mirqan ibn Abdul Aziz, the area's governor and honorary chairman of the company.

**Sultan to reside at ceremony**  
RIYADH, April 24 (SPA) — Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan will attend the graduation of the 39th class of King Abdul Aziz Military Academy of Riyadh Saturday morning.

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# Minor incidents mar Lebanon ceasefire

BEIRUT, April 24 (R) — Guns were mostly silent in Lebanon Friday as apart from minor incidents the country was calm for the first time this month.

In Beirut, the eastern town of Zahle and the southern border area, where more than 350 persons have died in the latest fighting, a tentative calm descended on Lebanon.

Two shells were fired at Beirut international airport, which remained effectively closed for the third day running but they caused only minor damage, airport sources said. Elsewhere in the capital, the ceasefire arranged by President Elias Sarkis Wednesday evening following violent artillery duels between Syrian peacekeeping forces and rightist militiamen seemed to be holding.

In Zahle, entirely surrounded by Syrian troops, security sources said there had been some artillery fire in the area during Thursday night, but there were no known casualties.

The town was quiet Friday morning except for limited sniper fire, the sources said. Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, who met Major Saad Haddad, leader of the rightist

militia, in Tel Aviv Thursday said measures would be taken to avoid casualties among U.N. peacekeeping troops and civilian population in the South.

But, despite the lull, Lebanese newspapers said the roots of the conflicts in Lebanon had not been eliminated. Newspapers reported that the governor of Zahle, Henri Lahou, Thursday discussed the situation there with Col. Muhammad Ghanem, chief intelligence of the Syrian troops based in the nearby town of Shtoura.

The independent daily *An-Nahar* said a plan was being considered to replace rightist militia in Zahle with Lebanese police and gendarmes, but other newspapers said the rightists were still refusing to pull out. The presence of the militia in Zahle is the main obstacle to complete Syrian control of the Bekaa Valley, which borders Syria.

In Beirut, President Sarkis conferred with military leaders and cabinet ministers as part of what state radio called "intensive political contacts to stabilize security and pave the way for moving toward a political dialogue next week."

# UNRWA to retain teachers

BEIRUT, April 24 (AP) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees Thursday suspended a decision to dismiss 9,479 refugee teachers after special contributions cut down its budget deficit, according to a statement issued by the U.N. information office in Vienna.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Olof Rydbeck told the 16,700-member UNRWA staff that due to "some improvement in the financial outlook," UNRWA had decided to suspend the dismissal action, said the statement received here by telex. "The gap between budgeted expenditure and income pledged for 1981 is still very wide. However," Rydbeck was quoted as saying, "and I shall have to keep the situation under review."

UNRWA had sounded an alarm earlier this year that it would have to close its 635 schools in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the occupied West Bank of Jordan, if it could not cover a budget deficit of \$70.3 million. The dismissal notices were to have been sent by the end of April.

# 5 Palestinian students arrested in West Bank

TEL AVIV, April 24 (R) — Five Palestinian students from the occupied West Bank were arrested Thursday night after a demonstration at the U.S. consulate in east Jerusalem was broken up by the police, a police spokesman said.

The students, from Bir Zeit University in Ramallah, said they were protesting against a decision by the United States to extradite to Israel a man wanted here for rebel activity. Israel has asked for the extradition of

Zayad Abu Zein to face charges of sabotage and a number of attacks in which several persons were injured.

Meanwhile, several hundred persons demonstrated here Thursday to mark the formation of a movement calling for an end to Israel's evacuation of Sinai.

Israel agreed under the Camp David peace accords with Egypt to withdraw from all of the Sinai peninsula by April next year.

The movement, consisting mainly of members of the ultra-nationalist Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) and Zionist West Bank settlers, held its inaugural meeting then marched in demonstration through the streets of Jerusalem to the wailing wall, in the old city.

# Qaddafi visits Russia Monday

MOSCOW, April 24 (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi will visit the Soviet Union next Monday and Tuesday, the Soviet news agency Tass announced Friday.

Tass said that Qaddafi's visit will have "a view to strengthening and developing further friendly relations" between the two countries. Qaddafi was last in Moscow in 1976. Libya is a major purchaser of Soviet arms.

Last month, Moscow announced about Qaddafi's visit but no dates were given.

# Bani-Sadr pledges PLO support

TEHRAN, April 24 (R) — Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, renewing his pledge to shun the superpowers, has said he looked forward to a time when Iran would fight beside the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Answering questions at a press conference Thursday, the president delivered a fulsome testimony of support of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the unity of strife-torn Lebanon. He said Iran's support might be limited at the moment to words due to war-related difficulties. "But we look forward to the day when we fight side by side with the Palestinians in their struggle with the oppressors."

# BRIEFS

DAMASCUS, IAP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was wounded in an assassination attempt last month, it was reported here Friday by the newspaper *Al-Baath*, official organ of the anti-Iraqi ruling Baath Party of Syria.

WASHINGTON, IAP) — U.S. officials said Thursday they had heard nothing to confirm reports that American officials have conferred secretly with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Vienna. The Voice of Lebanon radio said it had received reports of "top secret" meetings between U.S. officials and the PLO earlier this month in Vienna.

CAIRO, (R) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat Thursday discussed agricultural cooperation with Prof. Porhailis of the Israeli Agriculture Ministry, Israeli embassy officials said.

ISTANBUL, (R) — The Turkish government authorities Thursday released from custody 113 leaders of Turkey's left-wing labor organization, Disk, because they did not have previous police records, military sources said. The command is still detaining 195 other Disk leaders, including chairman Abdullah Basturk and Secretary General Febmi Iriklar.

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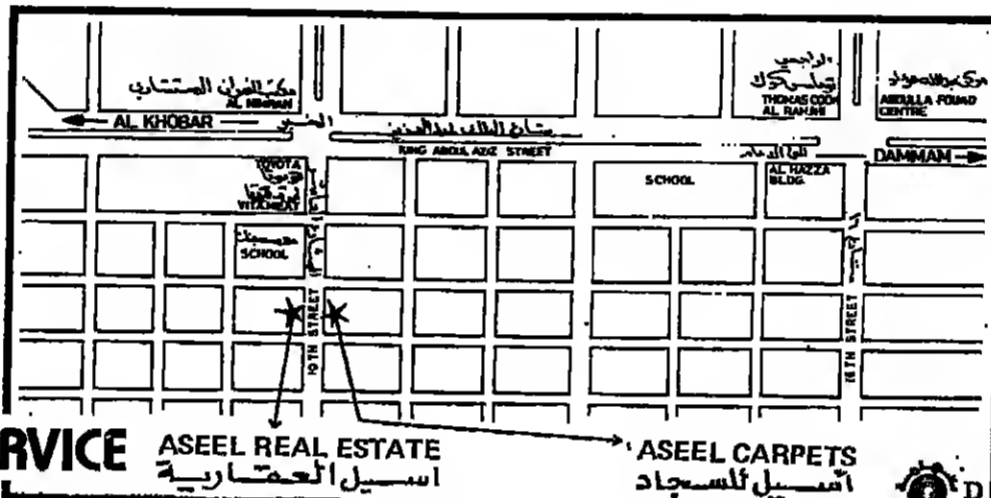
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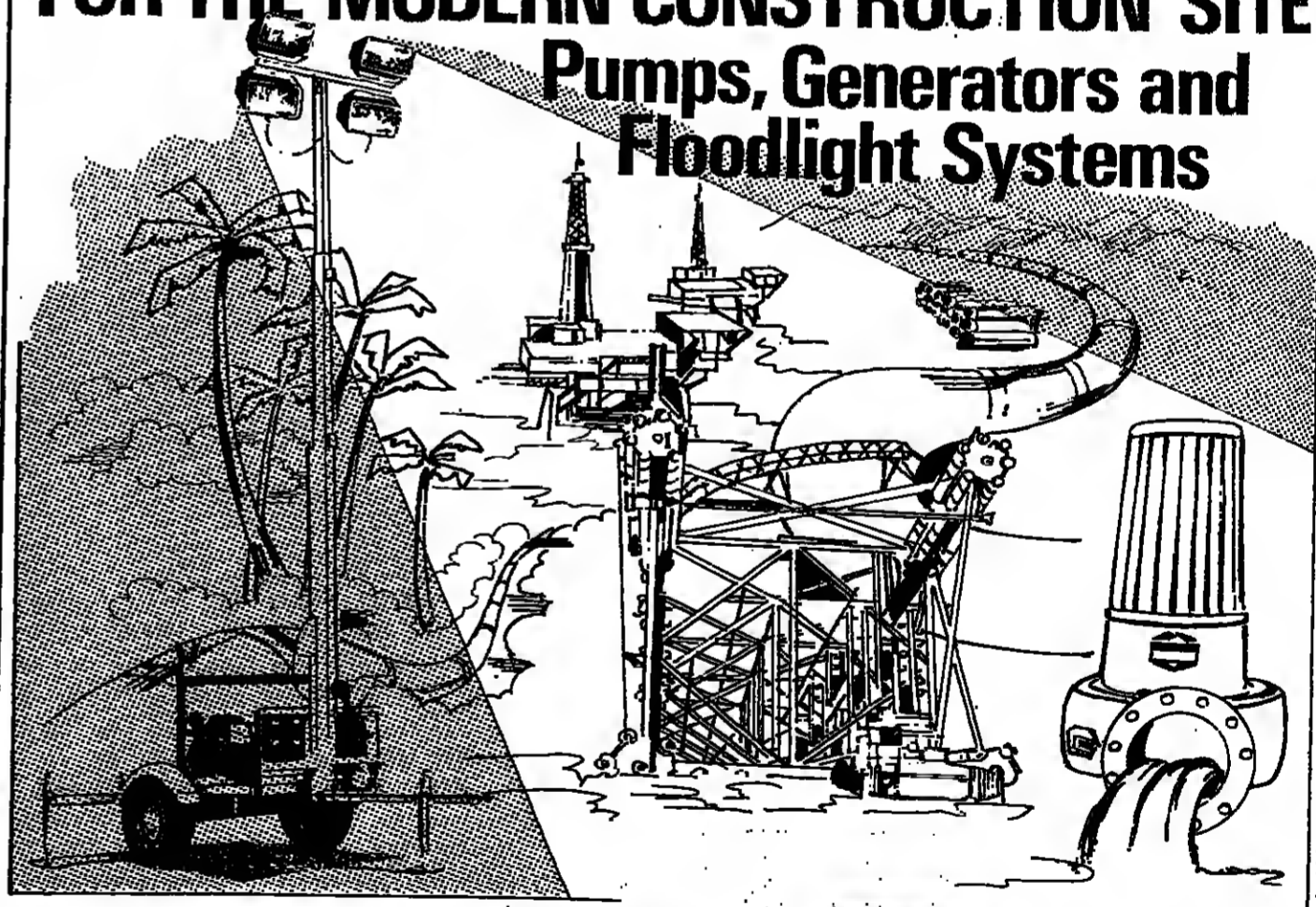
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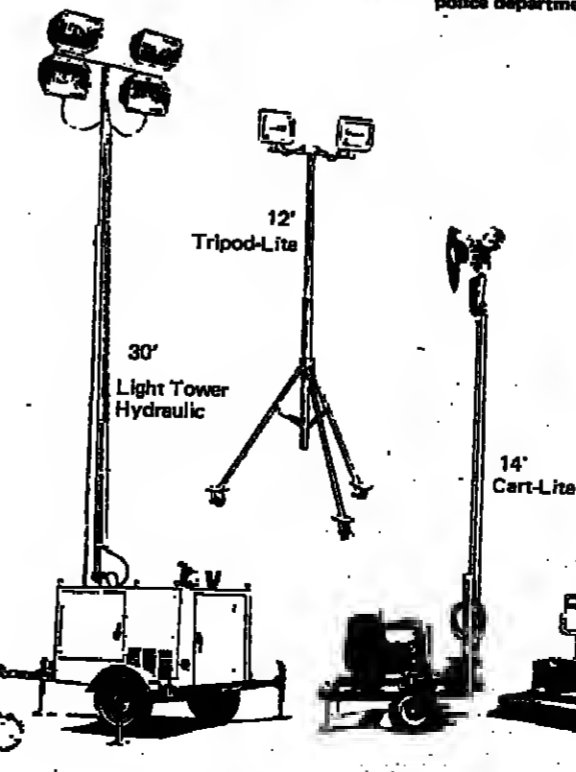


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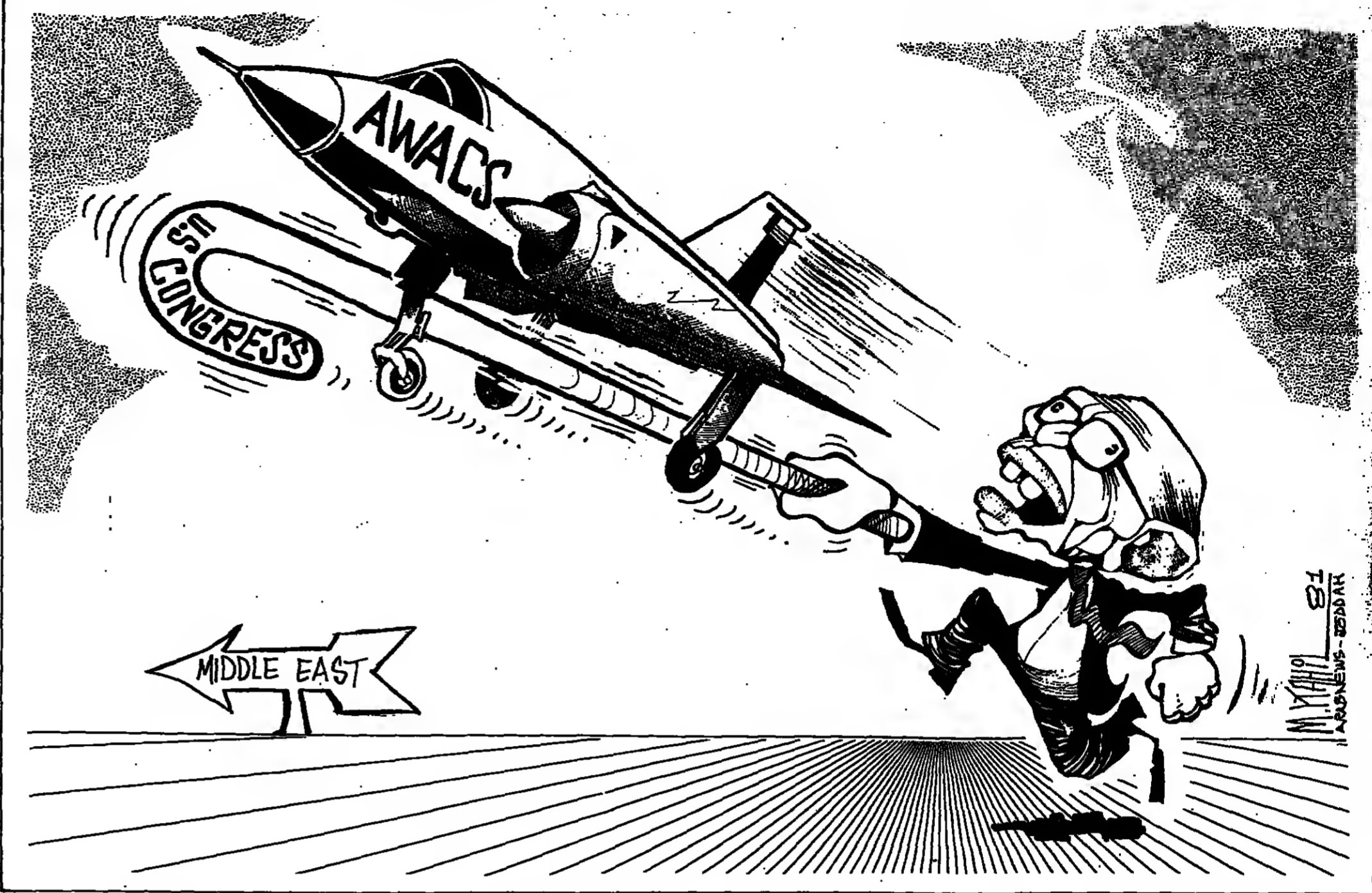
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## Mitterrand sees hope about winning

By Brian Cathcart

LILLE, France — French Socialist Francois Mitterrand, who began his presidential election campaign by expressing doubts about his ability to win, now looks like a man who thinks that victory is possible. As he brings his campaign to a close before the preliminary round of voting on Sunday, his voice has an edge of confidence it lacked only a few weeks ago.

"Is there another candidate of the left who can win in the second round?" he asked a 10,000-strong rally of party faithful in this northern city. "No," came the unanimous reply, and the veteran campaigner allowed himself a thoughtful smile.

His confidence has risen with his banding in the opinion polls. Three months ago they forecast he would lose by at least 10 per cent in the probable runoff with Valery Giscard d'Estaing, but last weekend the final samplings put him neck-and-neck with the incumbent president.

If victory comes this for the 64-year-old son of a railway company official it will be third time lucky, for he has already failed twice to win election to France's highest office.

The Lille rally was the springboard for the final week of campaigning, reviving the campaign after the unofficial Easter weekend truce and launching Mitterrand on a final tour of party strongholds. From Lille, he was to travel to Marseilles, run for decades by the party's grand old man, Gaston Defferre, and then to Toulouse.

Years of campaigning have given France's most persistent politician a unique style at the hustings:

leaning over the podium and close to the microphones, he speaks softly and slowly, as if taking his audience into his confidence.

And he speaks at length. The Lille crowd heard him speak for 90 minutes, without notes, on foreign affairs, the economy and the record of his chief opponents, President Giscard d'Estaing.

Rarely does he raise his voice, rarely does he allow himself the gesticulations beloved of most French politicians. From ball to hall and broadcast to broadcast the message is the same as Mitterrand plugs away on the president's economic record, particularly on unemployment, and outlines his own alternatives.

At Lille he spoke first on foreign affairs, a 30-minute sketch of his views on East-West relations, Third World aid, and the Middle East and other matters.

Then without a pause he switched to unemployment, a subject particularly worrying his listeners in his area dominated by the warring coal mining and textile industries. As he described some individual cases from among France's 1.66 million jobless, his voice rose and his tone sharpened until he reached a crescendo of outrage and anger, bringing his audience to their feet for the first time.

He quickly cut short the applause to set out his own proposals: 210,000 new jobs should be created in the public sector, the working week should be cut from 40 to 35 hours with no loss of pay, the minimum wage and state welfare payments should be increased. Raising the income of the poorest Frenchmen and women would stimulate demand on the French market and get industry turning at full

capacity, he said.

To the critics who argue his program is inflationary he replied: "Yes, the first year will be difficult...but by planning, by nationalization of key sectors of industry and by common effort we can meet the challenge."

From unemployment he turned to the theme of liberty, claiming that President Giscard has made the state television channels into his personal property by placing them under the control of people who would obey him.

There were brief words of disdain for his one-time ally, now an opponent and a sharp critic, Communist leader Georges Marchais, and there was a short attack on the record of neo-Gaullist candidate Jacques Chirac during his period as prime minister in 1974-1976. But the chief butt of Mitterrand's criticism was the president, whom he is expected to meet in the May 10 runoff when eight of the 10 candidates are eliminated on Sunday.

He characterized Giscard as haughty and high-handed and accused him of breaking his 1974 election promises. At every turn the president's record was attacked and his style was mocked. But if he is to qualify for the runoff Mitterrand must come first or second in Sunday's vote and for his Lille audience he had one particular message: those who are considering voting for minor left-wing candidates such as left-radical Michel Crepeau or Trotskyist Arlette Laguiller in the first round should think again.

"Every vote for another left-wing candidate is one less for the victory of the left...the election begins on Sunday," he declared. — (R)

## China's drought disaster spreading

By Jonathan Mirsky

GANG NAN, Hebei Province, — Irrigation water was turned off here at six o'clock on Sunday night, bringing Hebei Province a giant step nearer to catastrophe. Gang Nan is one of 16 main reservoirs in the province, 14 of which had already shut down. With Gang Nan's output gone, there is only one reservoir left to supply nine million irrigated acres — half the cultivated land.

The other nine million, dependent on the water alone for their water, have been suffering for 18 months from a record drought, an emergency so grim that for the first time Peking has called for international help. "I'm 72 and this is the worst drought I've ever seen," said Wang Mao-I. "The last time it was very bad was in 1962 and we had to walk a long way to find leaves to eat."

Squatting between the withered rows of spring wheat, on a slope half-a-mile from the dam, Wang twisted his hoe between hands as tough and cracked as an elephant's foot. "Last autumn our crop was pretty bad. But in June it's going to be terrible. Less than half." His son, Wenzhong, 39, looked even more miserable. "We're not getting one third. Look at those seedlings. Half dead."

Zhu Hongjian, one of the technicians at Gang Nan, has been there more than 20 years. He drove a stone into the earth: "1 per cent moisture. It should be 17."

## BEHIND LEBANON WAR

The latest round of fighting in Lebanon which has now subsided as a result of a new ceasefire, confirms suspicions that there are those who will not rest until the whole of the country, and the area as a whole catch fire. The six-year war will not be allowed to die down. There are definite interests served by keeping it alive, which time its explosions to achieve certain aims. The fear is that the latest fighting might herald the last act of the Lebanese tragedy, one which would engulf the country as a whole and draw in neighboring countries.

These outside interests are those of the Israelis. It is becoming known in Western capitals that Menachem Begin and his military leaders have a complete plan for direct intervention in the Lebanese crisis, and that its first requirement is the invasion of the country's south. This would serve a double aim: the weakening of the Palestinian resistance movement and the bolstering of Begin's sagging popularity at home, on the eve of the Israeli elections.

This means that the Arab world ought to treat the present conflict with the utmost seriousness. This is not one more incident in Lebanon's unhappy history but the beginning of an onslaught from the enemy against the Arab world as a whole. It would be foolish, this being the case, to occupy oneself with questions of detail, of which Lebanese sides was to blame for the flare-up, since all sides are in the end the object of Israel's attack. Arab governments have to adopt a united and resolute stand now, while events might still permit, and persuade all the Lebanese sides to stop the fighting and not become a party, however inadvertently, through the force of events, to the enemy's larger design.

## Saudi Arabian press review

Friday's two newspapers *Al-Jazirah* and *Okaz* highlighted in their front pages and editorials the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee in Fez, Morocco.

The two papers described the holding of Jerusalem Committee meeting which started its deliberations Thursday in Fez as "timely" in the face of tense regional and international atmosphere due to Israel's occupation of Arab lands, including Holy Jerusalem, and its despotic and aggressive policies in the area, and also due to the Soviet Union's expansionist ambitions in the Middle East.

Describing the meeting as timely, *Al-Jazirah* criticized Israel's despotic and intransigent attitudes against the Arab people.

The paper attacked Israel's criminal schemes to Judaize the Holy Jerusalem and other occupied territories. It also condemned the Soviet expansionist aims and ambitions in the Middle East that "would ultimately lead to a dangerous threat for the peace and security of the region."

The paper urged the members of the committee to draw up urgent plans for future moves on the Palestine and Jerusalem issues. "The committee should be able to convince the U.S. and European leaders of the dangers that would explode, if no fair and comprehensive solution to the two issues were found," it said.

*Al-Jazirah* also cautioned the Arab, U.S. and European leaders that if they fail to find a fair solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, this would provide a great chance for Soviet plots and ambitions to penetrate in the affairs of the

## Civilians main victims of El Salvador's war

By Al Kamen

SOYOPANGO, El Salvador — Grieving families in this low-income suburb of San Salvador buried their dead last week — the bodies of 30 men, women and teen-agers shot by government troops and left strewn along a dirt road.

"We were eight living together in the house," the brother of one of the victims said. "Four men and four women. The troops came and lined us up against the wall and asked for our identity cards. My brother didn't have card, he had lost it. They took him away for interrogation, they said. We found him dead yesterday morning."

No one in this country disputes that it is embroiled in a brutal war in which the two opposing armies — leftist guerrillas and the troops of a civilian-military coalition government — regularly, viciously confront and kill each other.

What is disputed, however, is who is responsible for the deaths of non-combatant civilians who, most agree, comprise the majority of the 15,000 lives lost in political violence here over the past 18 months. The Salvadoran government and its backers in Washington maintain that most of those who are not killed in direct combat are murdered by extremists — rampaging guerrillas or right-wing rogues both in and outside of the armed forces.

But many observers in El Salvador — including Western diplomats and civilians outside the government — say that many, perhaps most of the non-combatant deaths can be attributed to military operations similar to that conducted in Soyopango. It is this kind of officially tolerated, if not condoned, violence, they argue, that indicates that a military solution to the Salvadoran conflict will never provide a lasting peace or gain the government the support of the Salvadoran people.

Over and over again, in private conversations with peasants in urban slums and rural agricultural cooperatives, similar stories are told. Sometimes it begins with a brief shootout in the darkened, curfew-deserted street, sometimes not. House-to-house searches are conducted, often by men in uniform, often led by one man, sometimes masked, who points out those to be taken away.

A few miles away from here is another working-class suburb, called Ciudad Delgado. There, more than one-third of the houses are empty and those who remain say that their neighbors fled from similar house-to-house searches by the military. Fifteen miles away is a refugee camp called La Bermuda. Even there, there is no safety, and residents two weeks ago told of 20 persons being led away by soldiers, never to return.

In rural agricultural cooperatives, the centerpiece of government programs to win the support of El Salvador's peasants, hundreds of peasant

leaders have been executed. Occasionally, workers will accuse the leftists who travel in guerrilla bands through the countryside. Most often, they accuse the government security forces.

Privately, some Western diplomats concede that perhaps half of those murdered — often killed on the word of a single informant — probably had little or nothing to do with the guerrillas. "The troops," said one mourner at the funeral in Soyopango, "go through our neighborhood often and take people away."

The U.S. Embassy here, which administers the Reagan administration's new \$25 million military assistance program, reportedly is putting heavy pressure on the government of stem official terrorism. "Progress has been made" in stopping right-wing violence, Col. Eldon Cummings, the man who has been in charge of the 56 U.S. military advisers here told reporters. "I have seen the (disciplinary books) and they have disciplined people. I have also provided (the military) with my recommendations, or criticisms, if you will, of certain actions."

"But it is not simple," Cummings added. "You can't change 50 years of the normal way of doing things overnight. But I think it is changing."

A leading member of the Christian Democratic Party, the only political party sharing governmental power with the military, disputed Cummings' assessment of the level of change, complaining that, if anything, violence has gotten much worse in the last 30 days since the military began a counteroffensive against the guerrillas. The Christian Democrats hold government security forces, or right-wing paramilitary organizations, responsible for the murders of more than 40 Christian Democratic mayors and scores of party leaders and workers.

Some U.S. officials here insist that the violence by the right is committed by lower-level extremists in the security forces or by Orden, a right-wing paramilitary force, originally sponsored by the government but officially disbanded 18 months ago. Many peasants insist it still operates throughout the country.

As the violence continues, and according to many even accelerates, some Salvadorans, including members of the conservative business community, are wondering whether the top ranks really want to stop the killing. Others question whether the high command could stop the rightist violence without risking a coup from hard-line military officers.

One businessman, who said he has received death threats from the right as well as the left, scoffed at the suggestion that the government could not stop the random killing. "Are you kidding," he asked rhetorically. "Orden is the government."

What was different about the Soyopango shootings was that the government publicly acknow-

ledged that members of the security forces had been involved. Official spokesmen said that the residents were killed in a shootout between government forces and leftist guerrillas. They said the shooting began after midnight when a government patrol was attacked. Although one official initially said that four soldiers had been killed, another later said government casualties had consisted of two wounded soldiers.

Asked about the incident as he left a luncheon at the Camino Real Hotel recently, Defense Minister Col. Jose Guillermo Garcia referred reporters to the chief of police. U.S. Charge d'Affaires Frederic Chapin, leaving the same luncheon, said he had no comment.

Families of victims in Monte Carmelo, a Soyopango neighborhood where most of the dead had lived, said uniformed soldiers conducted a house-to-house search there, guided by a man in a mask. Some were shot there, although all the bodies were dumped in San Carlos.

Witnesses along the San Carlos street where the dead were found said that many of the bodies were dressed in underwear or pajamas and were barefoot. Almost all had rope burns on their thumbs, indicating their hands had been tied behind their backs.

Witnesses in the area of the shooting said no weapons had been found in the homes, although the government produced a dozen or so rifles and pistols which it said were taken from area homes.

The grieving families' last week's showed little interest in the debated issue of whether mainline government forces, or supposed military renegades, were responsible for the killings. Asked what she and her neighbors think of the government, one young woman, a co-worker of one of the victims, said: "We don't discuss that." — (WP)

### Letter to the editor

Sir,  
Attracted by the beauty of the Muslim areas of Malabar in South India, foreign missionaries have been active in spreading their creeds by appearing to be helpful and generous. Thus they have built schools, hospitals, libraries, colleges and other community projects, with the object of persuading Muslims to join their religions.

I strongly believe that the Islamic organizations can do a lot by extending assistance to this part of India and thus protect the vanishing society of its Muslims from further erosion.

Yours sincerely,  
Kondotti Hamza Muhammad  
P.O. Box 14,  
Jabal

هذه امه الوطن



# Kingdom's ties, trade with Germany growing

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, April 24 — The visit of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt on April 27 underscores the growing bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and the Federal Republic of Germany.



Chancellor Helmut Schmidt will arrive in Riyadh April 27 on a three-day official visit. A report released here Friday by the official Saudi Press Agency said the growth of the

two countries' relations in the last few years has deepened the bilateral relations between the two friendly nations.

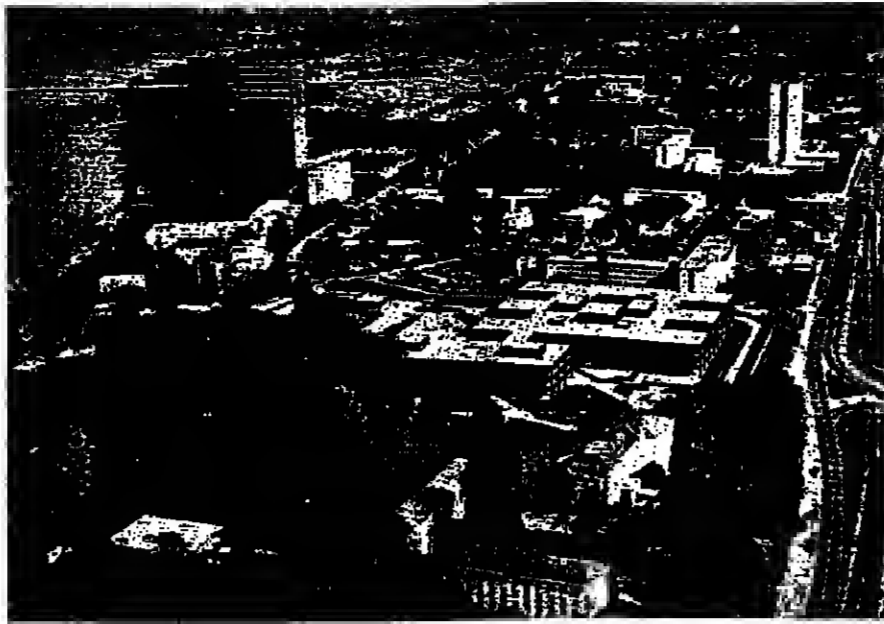
As an indication of the strong bonds, the agency quoted Minister of National Finance and Economy Sheikh Aba Al Khail as saying that German exports to the Kingdom rose 25 times in the 1972-1979 period.

German imports from Saudi Arabia also rose 400 per cent in the same period, the minister said. He added that the volume of contracts signed by German firms in the Kingdom reached SR24 billion since 1973 while 58 joint ventures totaled SR3 billion.

German officials on the other hand say that Saudi Arabia is the second largest trading partner, after the United States, of the Federal Republic outside the European community.

Saudi Arabian-German relations were first forged in 1929 when King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud signed a friendship treaty with Germany which continues until this day with only minor modification to keep pace with new requirements.

According to a German press statement released here Friday the two-way trade volume between the countries had increased from DM7.5 billion in 1976 to DM 14.2 billion in 1980 — a rise of 89.3 per cent in the five year period. German private investment in Saudi Arabia has increased. (German engineers and technicians were the first to



BONN: The government quarters in Bonn, with a view of the Rhine (left) and the Siebengebirge hills in the background.

help build the Hejaz railway from Damascus to Medina at the beginning of this century). Cooperation within the framework of "technical cooperation against payment" has laid emphasis on vocational training.

Total volume of trade increased from DM 7,500 million in 1976 to DM 14,200 million in 1980, a rise of 89.3 per cent in five years.

Oil, accounted for 98.2 per cent of the total German imports from Saudi Arabia in 1980. Motor vehicles and spare parts, accounted for 23.3 per cent of the total German exports to Saudi Arabia in the same year, followed by electro-technical products (20.3 per cent), machines (16.7 per cent) and iron and ironwares (13.1 per cent).

The Federal Republic of Germany is the third main supplier of goods to Saudi Arabia (after the United States and Japan). Of countries receiving German goods throughout the world, Saudi Arabia is in 13th place and second among non-European customers of Germany (after the United States).

In 1980, Saudi Arabia maintained its position as the main foreign supplier of oil, sending 24.6 million tons; this was 25.4 per cent of total German oil imports (96.7 million tons).

Further expansion in German-Saudi Arabian trade is expected, according to the statement, clearly, the surplus achieved by Saudi Arabia in trade with Germany in 1980 — the first since 1977 — resulted largely from oil price increases; but it was also partially brought about by an increase in oil deliveries compared to 1979 (a rise of 8.7 million tons); there were increases, too, in supply of refinery products (petroleum and lubricants).

Apart from Saudi Arabia's importance as a supplier of oil to Germany, factors indicate growth in the exchange of goods between the two countries are: the rise in German private capital investment in Saudi Arabia, the participation of German business and industry in economic expansion here and participation in fairs and exhibitions in either country.

An expression of the good relations between the Federal Republic and Saudi Arabia can be seen also in the exchange of visits by

leading government officials.

In 1980 King Khalid paid a state visit and in 1978 and 1979 Crown Prince Fahd accompanied by Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal made official visits to Germany. Prince Saud also visited Bonn last year.

These were preceded by visits by Oil Minister Zaki Yamani (1974) and the Minister for Industry and Electricity, Dr. Ghazi Algosabi (1977). The deputy education minister, Prince Khalid bin Fahd, and the deputy minister for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Dr. Ghazi Sultan, were in Germany in 1978, while Finance and Economics Minister Muhammad Aba Al-Khail, Agriculture Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sbeikh and Planning Minister Hisham Nazer came in 1979.

Prominent German visitors to Saudi Arabia included Chancellor Schmidt (1976); Foreign Minister Genscher (1975 and 1979) the then minister for research and Technology; Volker Hauff (now Transport) (1978 and 1980); for Economic Co-operation Rainer Offergeld (1979); for Economics Otto Count Lambsdorff (1979 and 1980); and for Finance Hans Matthoerfer (1980); a delegation from the Deutscher Bundestag (1978); the State Premier of Bavaria, Franz-Josef Strauss (1977) and the Mayor of the city-state of Hamburg; Hans-Ulrich Klose (1978). Federal Bank President Pohl was there in 1980, and State Secretary Schulmann of the Finance Ministry in 1981.

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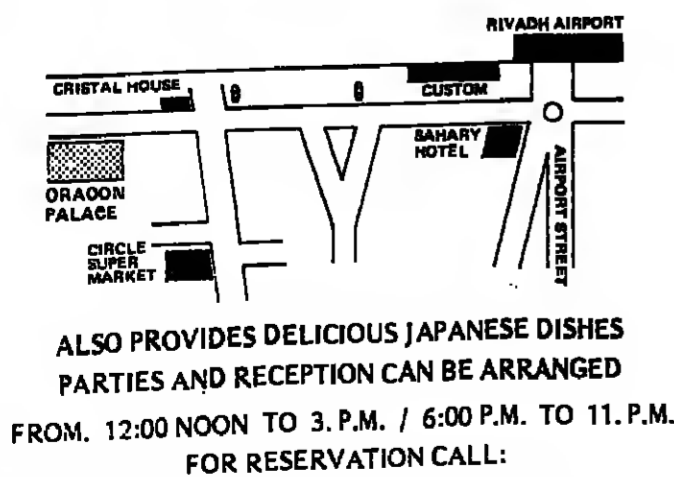
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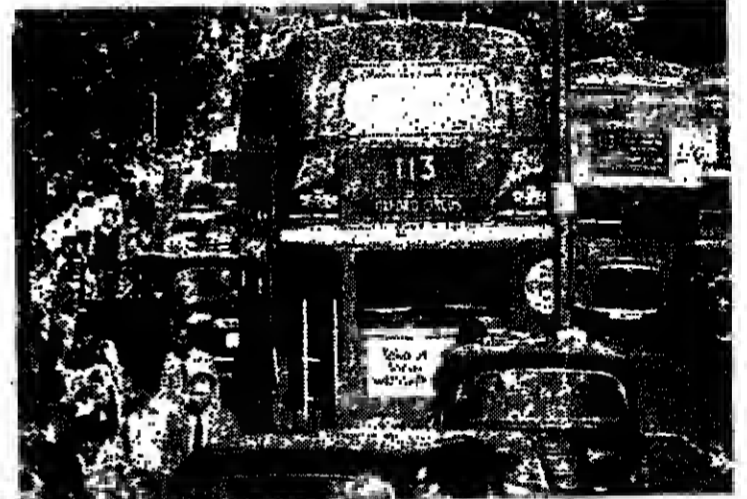
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# Popularity of Reagan soars high

NEW YORK, April 24 (AP) — More than two out of five Americans say Ronald Reagan has accomplished more in the opening months of his administration than past United States presidents, an Associated Press-NBC news poll says. As Reagan moves toward the end of his first 100 days in office, the public has strong, positive feelings about him as a person and a generally high opinion of his work as president.

The assassination attempt March 30 — and Reagan's handling of it — apparently added to his store of goodwill with the public. His ratings have soared to the highest levels yet in the wake of the shooting. The latest AP-NBC news poll is based on telephone interviews with 1,604 adults across the country April 13-14.

Americans say they think Reagan has accomplished a good bit in his first months in office, but they were not really surprised. More than two out of five persons — 42 per cent — think Reagan has accomplished more than past presidents in his first months in office. Forty-six per cent said his accomplishments have been little different from other presidents and seven per cent said he has done less.

Two-thirds of those questioned said Reagan's work had been about what they had expected of him. 27 per cent said he had been done better than they had expected and five per cent said he had done worse. Those most impressed by Reagan's work have been those who voted for his opponents last fall.

# Artificial skin saves burn victims

BOSTON, Massachusetts, April 24 (AP) — Artificial skin made from cowhide, shark cartilage and plastic has been successfully used for treating severely burned patients, and doctors hope the patients will be able to keep the new skin permanently. So far none shows signs of rejecting the substitute skin, which feels similar to skin grafts taken from the patients own body.

Dr. John F. Burke of Massachusetts General Hospital, one of the developers of the skin, presented his first report on the work Thursday at a convention in Chicago, Illinois, of the American Surgical Association. The first transplant of the artificial skin on a human being was performed 16 months ago, and Burke said three of the 10 recipients so far would probably have died without the treatment.

# Filipino opposition to boycott election

MANILA, April 24 (AP) — The United Democratic Opposition, a coalition of forces opposed to President Ferdinand E. Marcos, announced Friday it has decided to boycott the June 16 Philippine presidential election, saying it is a device to perpetuate Marcos in power.

The opposition leaders, former senator Gerardo Roxas and ex-congressman Jose Laurel, announced their decision at a press conference following a closed door meeting of 50 politicians belonging to eight opposition political parties or groups.

In a statement, the opposition group said it has "decided not to field or support a candidate for president or to take part in this election except to seminate as fully as it can the reasons for t is decision and to urge every Filipino to join in a total, nationwide boycott."

sachusetts Institute of Technology have been developing the skin for 10 years. Yan-nas said the team hopes the patients will be able to keep the skin forever, although it is too soon to make any prediction.

The goal, he said in an interview, was "to treat the patient so he would survive and go back home. After that the intention was to create a skin covering for the patient that would enable him to look like he did before he was brought into the hospital. These goals were achieved."

Meanwhile, another study says testing blood donations for an enzyme associated with a mild form of hepatitis could cut down on incidence of the disease among blood recipients. But some doctors question whether such screening would be worthwhile.

Blood banks would have to discard about

three per cent of their collections, the study says, and three doctors, including a federal blood bank official, asked if the drawbacks outweigh the potential benefits to people's health. About 10 per cent of the people who receive blood transfusions contract non-A, non-B hepatitis, a usually mild form of the liver disease. About 40 per cent of these cases could be eliminated by blood screening, the six-year, federally financed study concluded.

The study on 1,513 persons at nine hospitals and blood banks was directed by Dr. Richard D. Aach of Sinai hospital in Baltimore and published in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*. Researchers found that non-A, non-B hepatitis is most commonly transmitted by blood that contains an enzyme called alanine aminotransferase (ALT).

# Second trip in September

# Spaceship gets new crew

HOUSTON, April 24 (AP) — Astronauts John Young and Bob Crippen are passing their "used" spaceship *Columbia* to a new crew, unofficially ending a three-year association with the craft that often tried their patience before earning their glowing respect. "I hope you take care of it," Young said Thursday as he and Crippen transferred *Columbia*'s "key" at a news conference here.

Young and Crippen set the tone for the conference, interlacing a series of jokes with their reports of the shuttle's "phenomenal" performance on its maiden flight earlier this month. They had a right to be relaxed and relieved. For all those years they had watched and waited, sweating out ooe space shuttle problem after another.

Since their return to earth, they have been closeted with the experts discussing the flight in detail. They will be called on for more information, and there will be a trip to the White House and other public appearances. But when they turned in their pilots' reports and held the news conference at the Johnson

Space Center Thursday, it was an unofficial end of their association with *Columbia*. They signified that when they summoned the spaceship's second crew, Joe Engle and Richard Truly, to the stage and presented them with a large gold-painted key with *Columbia* stamped on it.

The second flight is scheduled in September. "We have only one spacecraft right now and we have to take turns flying it," Young told them. "I hope you take care of it." Young and Crippen also said they're getting in line for another flight — if not on *Columbia*, one of three other shuttles now planned, *Challenger*, *Atlantis* and *Discovery*. "I'd love to go up again," Crippen said.

The astronauts showed movies and slides of their trip and answered questions about the view. "It was so beautiful, it's too difficult to describe," Crippen said. "Seventy-two sunrises and sunsets in 2½ days is what makes space flight really exciting," Young stated.

They beamed a slide of a picture they snapped of Tebran from 172,277 kms up and said they planned to send autographed prints to the 52 Americans once held hostage there, "to show them a picture of their former hometown."

Meanwhile, the White House announced Thursday that President Ronald Reagan will nominate James Montgomery Beggs, and executive of the General Dynamics Corp., to head the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Beggs, 55, executive vice president for aerospace of General Dynamics since 1974, served as associate administrator in NASA's office of advanced research and technology in 1968-69 and as undersecretary of transportation in the first Nixon administration.

# West asks Africans to give up sanctions

UNITED NATIONS, April 24 (R) — African diplomats gave a chilly initial response to appeals from Britain and the United States Thursday night to abandon their demands for sanctions against South Africa and to continue negotiations for the independence of Namibia (SouthWest Africa). But they declined to say when they might formally submit resolutions to the U.N. Security Council calling for a full-scale economic embargo against South Africa.

Such resolutions were certain to be vetoed by the United States, Britain or France if pressed to a vote, African and other third world countries said they would then call for a special emergency session of the general assembly.

# Thai army joins police to fight crime

BANGKOK, Thailand, April 24 (AP) — Some 150 military police will patrol Bangkok streets daily alongside city policemen in a move to combat the city's soaring crime rate, first army commander Lt. Gen. Athit Kamlangek said Friday. He said the military police will join the city police on 24-hour patrols beginning Saturday. He said the

operation would be reviewed every seven days, and that "if it is successful the operation will be continued."

Police statistics show the crime rate in Bangkok increased 19 per cent between January and March over a year ago. Police recorded 119 murders in the capital last month, compared with 95 in March 1980.



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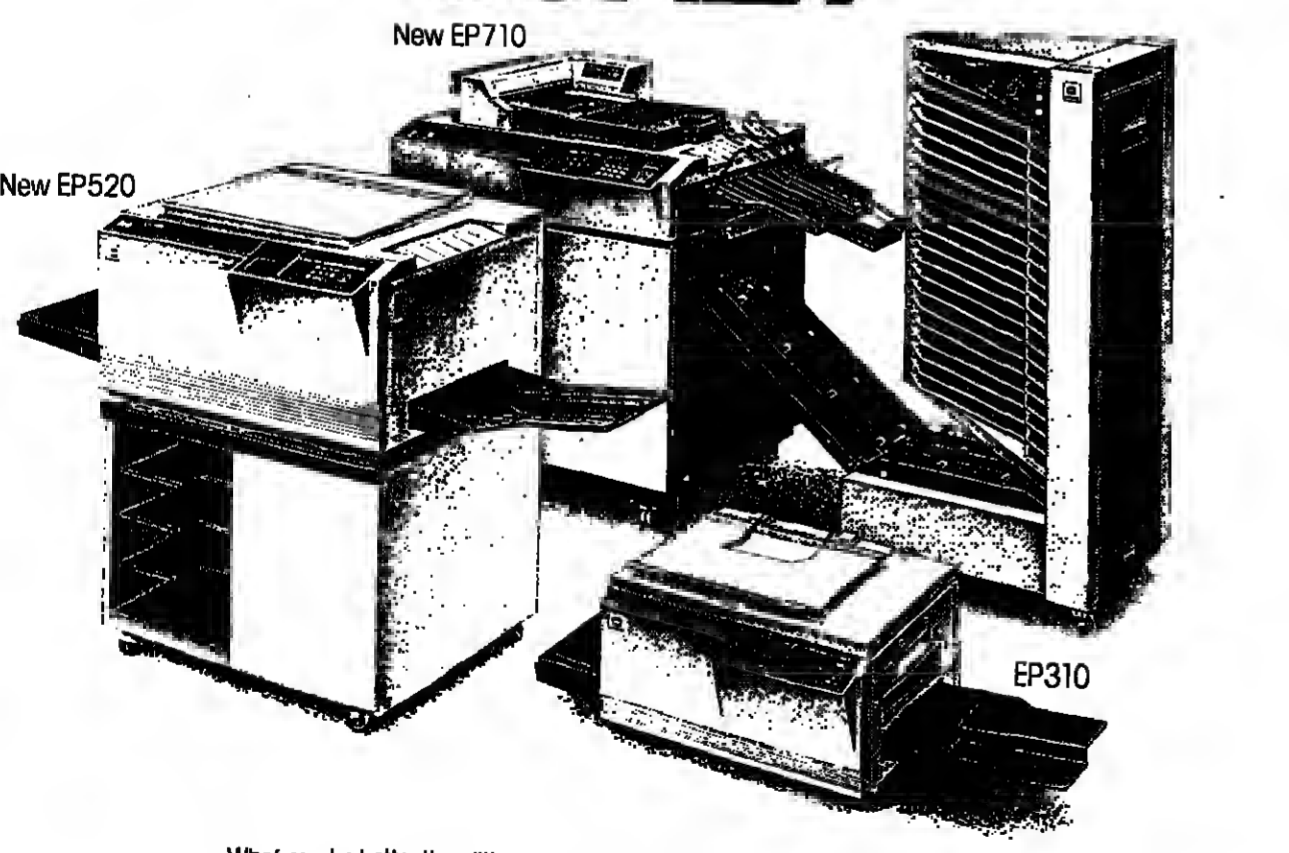
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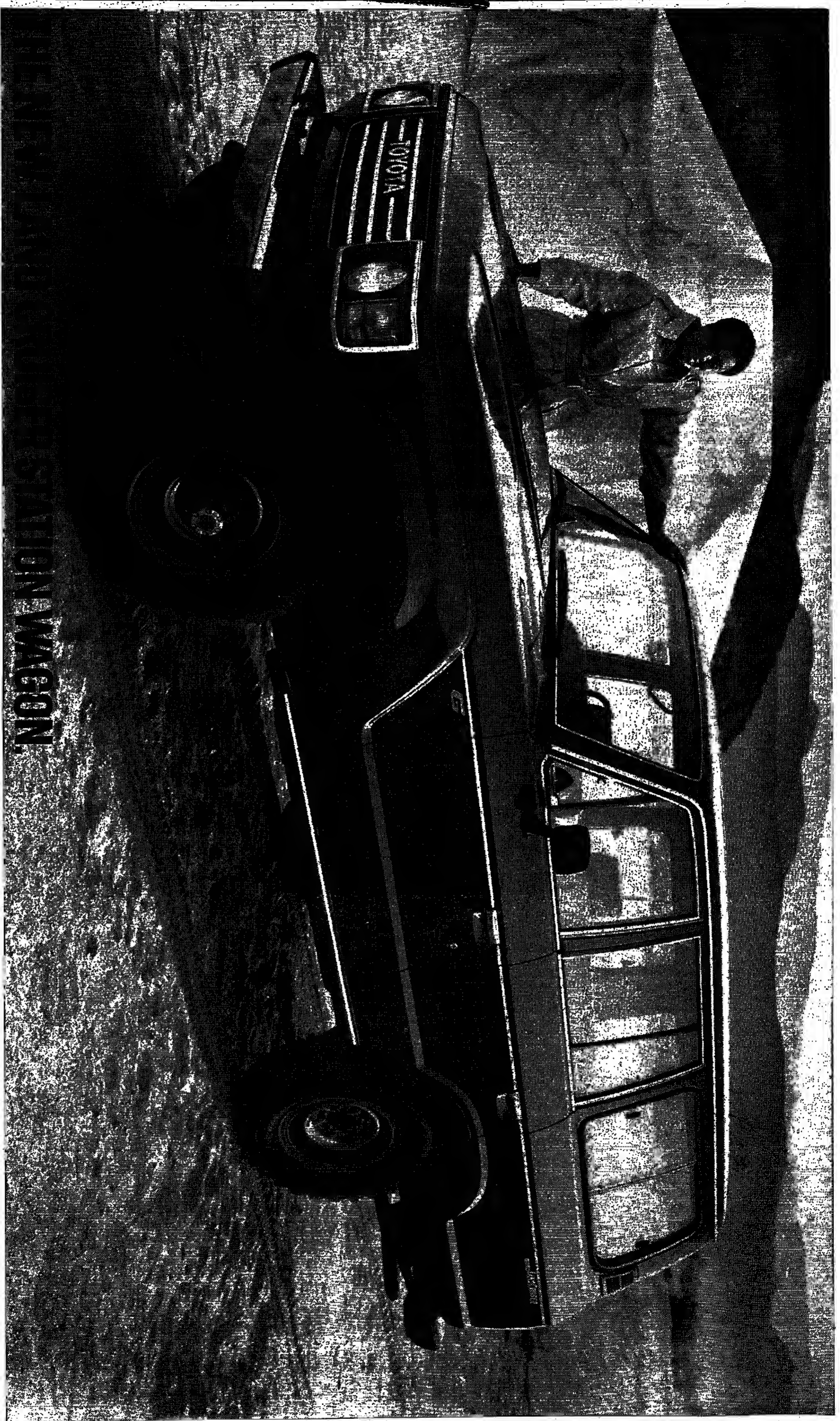
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**Eases reserve clause**

**IMF hikes interest rate to 12.5%**

WASHINGTON, April 24 (AP) — The International Monetary Fund has announced an increase in the interest rates on the money it trades among its 141 member countries, including the United States and China.

Debtors, in compensation, won freedom in using the money — called Special Drawing Rights or SDRs — that the IMF regularly creates for use of its members. The United States and other big industrial coun-

tries get the bulk of these funds, but the poor countries also get some.

The poor countries will no longer be obliged to hold reserves amounting to about \$1.265,000,000, 15 per cent of all they have received, in SDRs. But they will have to pay higher interest on it. Reserves of less than 15 per cent are now being held by about 30 countries, including Israel, the Philippines, Jamaica, Greece, Thailand and some of the

poorest countries in Africa. They will no longer have to worry about buying more SDRs to meet the requirement, and can dispose of the rest as they like.

The object of the operation, the IMF said, is to increase the attractiveness of its own form of currency — the SDR. It would like to make the SDR the main asset that countries hold in their reserves, rather than gold, dollars or other currencies. So far, the member countries have agreed to issue only 21,433,300,000 of these — far too few for that purpose.

Governments of poor countries would like to see a massive increase — 50 billion during the next five years — but the United States and other rich countries, which have the major voting power in the IMF, have been resisting. At present rates, each SDR is worth about \$1.205.

The interest rate paid on SDRs will rise on May 1 to 12.58 per cent a year instead of the current 10.125 per cent.

**Kuwait plans joint venture with U.S. firm**

HONOLULU, April 24 (AP) — A proposed joint venture between Pacific Resources, Inc., and Kuwait will "underwrite the self-sufficiency of Hawaii's energy needs," James F. Gary, PRI chairman and chief executive officer, has said.

The venture is being developed by PRI, Hawaii's major energy supplier, and the Kuwait Petroleum Corp. to engage in a wide range of energy-related activities primarily in the Pacific basin area, Gary said.

In a prepared statement, KPC chairman Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah said the venture marks Kuwait's "first move to develop business opportunities with an established American independent company."

Under the terms of the proposed agreement, the venture would be managed by PRI, which would contribute its oil refining, marketing and related petroleum operations.

**Supply exceeds demand**

**Oil market 'fragile,' IEA says**

PARIS, April 24 (AFP) — The world oil market remains "fragile," despite a glut of crude and declining oil prices, International Energy Agency (IEA) Executive Director Lantzke said here Friday. "There is no change in the basic underlying trends," he added.

Dr. Lantzke agreed that supply from member countries of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) now exceeds demand. "It may result in a spare capacity in OPEC of three million barrels a day compared to demand," he said.

"But this can be wiped away from one day to another," he told Agence France-Presse. "You never can be sure of that." "We had the same situation in 1978, when everybody was talking about a glut," he added recalling the situation that prevailed on the world oil market just before the revolution in Iran which triggered what is referred to by Western experts as the "second oil shock." Official oil prices have increased by over 150 per cent as a result of an overall shortfall in supplies due to the temporary suspension of Iranian exports in 1979.

Dr. Lantzke also took a skeptical view of the reports in the past few days that oil exporting countries are reducing their prices. "Have you ever seen (oil) prices really coming down?" he asked.

The governing board of the IEA — which groups the 21 leading oil importing countries

except France — officially acknowledged three weeks ago that the tensions caused on the oil market by the outbreak of the Iran Iraq war last September have subsided. He also advised member countries to engage in "orderly" stockbuilding to secure adequate stocks in time for the new winter season.

Dr. Lantzke was confident that the easing of the oil supplies would not lead to complacency on the part of member countries regard to energy policy.

**Taipei may lift investment curbs on foreigners**

TAIPEI, April 24 (AP) — The stock market of the Republic of China may be reopened to foreign investors, stock sources here said. They said the securities exchange commission, which governs the nation's stock exchanges, is drafting regulations to allow foreign participation in the market again.

The government adopted measures in 1967 to permit foreign investment in the market, but because of the stiffness of the regulations, little foreign investment flowed into the Island's stock market.

**U.S. oil firms' profits dip**

NEW YORK, April 24 (AP) — Two of the largest U.S. oil companies, Exxon Corp and Gulf Oil Corp., have reported sharp declines in their first-quarter earnings, citing a worldwide oversupply of oil and slackening demand.

Industry leader Exxon said Thursday its earnings for the first three months of the year fell 16.9 per cent to \$1.6 billion from \$1.9

billion in last year's first quarter. Revenues rose 9.6 per cent to \$30.32 billion \$27.65 billion a year ago.

Gulf, ranked No. 5 among U.S. oil companies, reported its net income fell 22 per cent to \$303 million from \$389 million in the comparable year-ago period. Revenues rose 1.5 per cent to \$7.87 billion from \$7.75 billion.

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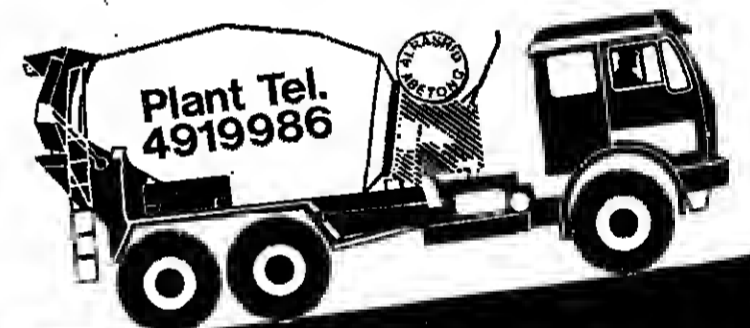
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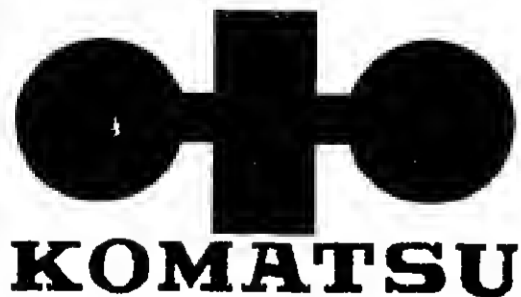
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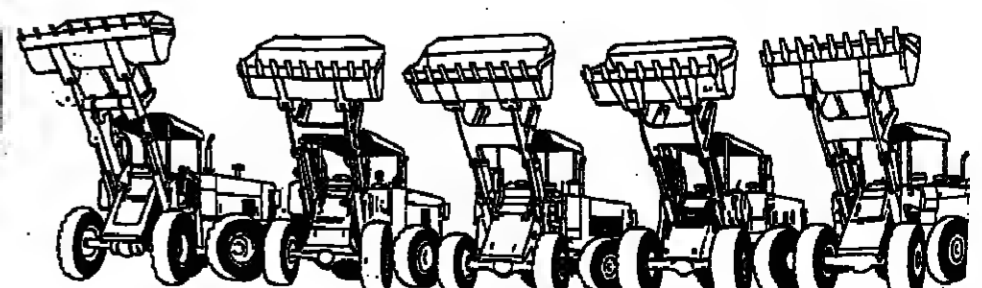
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Support on economic plan

# Reagan to address Congress Tuesday

WASHINGTON, April 24 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan will address a joint session of Congress Tuesday night on his economic program.

The president, who has not been seen in public since he was shot in an assassination attempt March 30, will go before the House and Senate at 9 p.m. (0200 GMT Wednesday), Deputy White House Press Secretary Larry Speakes has said.

His address will come one day after Congress returns from a two-week Easter recess. Speakes said Thursday Reagan's economic recovery program was "a subject the president believes is of the utmost importance to the nation and one on which he believes he

should communicate in person with members of the House and Senate at this time."

"He feels it is particularly important that he outlined his views as his program moves forward in the legislative process," Speakes said at a White House briefing for reporters. "He is eagerly looking forward to the opportunity to be back on Capitol Hill."

Meanwhile, top White House aides predicted Thursday that Congress will complete action in August on Reagan's economic program.

They refused to say whether the president might be willing to compromise on his demand that Congress enact a three-year tax cut.

## IFAD gives \$35m loan to China

ROME, April 24 (AP) — The International Fund for Agricultural Development Friday announced approval of loans totaling \$39.2 million to help finance agricultural and livestock development projects in China and five African countries.

The \$35 million IFAD loan to Peking is the first development loan to be given to that country by an international financial institution. The IFAD said the long-term loan to China will help finance development of pasture and forage farming over 1.45 million hectares in the provinces of Heilungjiang and Hebei as well as in the inner Mongolia autonomous region, in northern China. Other project loans approved Friday will go to Benin, Upper Volta, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Zambia.

The IFAD also approved grants to nine agricultural research institutes, including the International Center for Agricultural Research in the dry areas in Beirut, Lebanon (\$1,440,000), the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Ibadan, Nigeria, (\$1,610,000), Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical in Cali, Colombia, (\$900,000), the International Rice Research Institute in Manila, Philippines, (\$1,700,000), the Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands in Damascus, Syria, (\$964,000), the International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya (\$670,000), and the International Crops Research Institute for the semi-arid tropics in Hyderabad, India, (\$300,000).

## U.S. cost of living up

WASHINGTON, April 24 (AP) — The cost of living index in the United States rose by only 0.6 per cent in March, reflecting an annual rate of 7.5 per cent, following a one per cent rise in February the Labor Department has said.

## EEC's energy use declines 4.6 per cent drop

BRUSSELS, April 24 (AP) — The European Economic Community in 1980 registered its biggest drop in energy use in five years, thanks not so much to conservation programs as to warm weather and a chilly economic climate.

These were the findings of a report issued Friday by the EEC statistical bureau. It said the nine EEC countries used 4.6 per cent less energy in 1980 than in 1979, representing 44 million tons less consumption of oil or its equivalent.

Consumption was well within targets set in 1979 by energy-minded leaders at a summit meeting dominated by concern for the damaging impact of mounting oil prices. Conservation measures were later adopted.

In its report, the EEC said of the 1980 figures, "the significant fall in consumption is due to various factors accompanying the poor-economic situation."

Among the factors were the decline in the steel industry, a major energy consuming business, and higher temperatures in 1980 compared to 1979.

## Egypt to get \$50m wheat from U.S.

CAIRO, April 24 (R) — The United States has agreed to supply Egypt with 260,000 tons of wheat and wheat flour worth \$50 million in addition to one million tons supplied under a previous agreement, a U.S. embassy press release has said Thursday.

The earlier accord for wheat and wheat flour worth \$210 million signed in December, provided for a 40-year loan at concessional rates of interest with a 10 year grace period.

Since 1974, the United States has supplied Egypt with some eight million tons of U.S. food and agricultural products worth more than \$1 billion.

pared to 1979, the coldest European winter in decades.

The EEC countries consumed 924.5 million tons of oil equivalent in 1978, 969.7 million tons in 1979 and 925.9 million tons in 1980.

Whatever the cause, the statistics showed several bright spots in the EEC's attempt to reduce dependence on oil, especially imported oil, and to get every country to reduce its use of energy. The report said the nine countries imported 420.3 million tons of oil in 1980, 40 million tons less than a target set by the EEC commission. Much of the credit went to the production of North Sea oil.

In addition to reducing its dependence on imported oil, the Common Market lowered the percentage of oil used in relation to other forms.

Oil's share fell from 54.2 per cent in 1979 to 51.8 per cent in 1980. Coal use rose from 19.7 per cent to 20.7 per cent, nuclear energy rose from 3.8 per cent to 4.6 per cent and natural gas increased its share from 17.8 per cent to 18.2 per cent.

Energy use declined in every country, with Italy having the smallest drop — 1.2 per cent, and Britain registering the biggest decrease, 9.2 per cent.

## London Commodities

	April 24	April 23
Gold (\$ per ounce)	495	491.50
Silver cash (pence per ounce)	530	524
3 months	548	540
Copper cash	846	839.00
3 months	866	859.00
Tin cash	5935	5960.00
3 months	6015	6090.00
Lead cash	354	351.00
3 months	360	359.00
Zinc cash	381	382.00
3 months	394	392.00
Aluminium cash	604	612.00
3 months	625	632.00
Nickel cash	2885	2850.00
3 months	2950	2910.00
Sugar May	206.5	204.50
August	205.25	205.00
Coffee May	1072	1065.00
July	1075	1066.00
Cocoa May	937	954.00
July	957	977

Note: Prices in pounds per metric ton. The above prices are provided by Saudi Research & Investment Ltd. P.O. Box 6474, Tel: 6653986, Jeddah.

## WorldBank lends Amman \$25m

AMMAN, April 24 (AP) — Jordan is to receive a \$ 25 million loan from the World Bank to finance development projects in the Kingdom, officials have said here.

They said Thursday part of the long-term loan would be used to construct an electricity network to serve 50 villages.

## JAL staff accepts 5.2 per cent pay rise

TOKYO, April 24 (R) — Flight crew of Japan Airlines (JAL) accepted a 5.2 per cent pay rise after a 24-hour strike Thursday as Japan's annual spring pay offensive — the "shunto" — neared its end.

Most of the major transport unions which had threatened to disrupt services have agreed to wage increases well below their initial demands. JAL unions Thursday night called off another strike planned for Friday. Thursday's stoppage led to the cancellation of five international and 45 domestic flights.

## Foreign Exchange Rates

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	—	8.60	8.93
Belgian Franc (1,000)	14.00	100.00	—
Canadian Dollar	2.81	3.20	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	155.00	156.00	155.60
Dutch Guilder (100)	140.00	142.00	139.85
Egyptian Pound	—	4.10	4.30
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	91.10	91.35
French Franc (100)	65.00	66.50	65.60
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	—	66.50
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	40.95
Iranian Ryal (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	8.00	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	31.00	32.00	31.30
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.50	—	15.30
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.35	10.32
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.24	12.22
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	83.80	83.15
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	70.00	69.30
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00
Philippine Peso (100)	—	—	44.00
Pound Sterling	7.29	7.37	7.25
Qatari Riyal (100)	—	92.00	92.20
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	—	159.00
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	—	39.00	38.10
Swiss Franc (100)	169.00	174.00	170.60
Syrian Lira (100)	—	52.50	86.50
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	—	—
U.S. Dollar	—	3.37	3.3630
Yemeni Ryal (100)	—	73.60	73.45

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National League - Eastern Division

Phillies start as hot favorites

By Cynthia Shanley

HOUSTON, April 24 — The 1981 Philadelphia Phillies have emerged as favorites to win the Eastern Division of the Baseball National League for the fourth time in the past five seasons.

The Phillies began an active spring training by sending unhappy Randy Lerch to Milwaukee for Dick Davis, a quality batter who beats up on left-handers. "One thing we were short on last season was right-handed hitting off the bench," Manager Dallas Green said in an interview with the Philadelphia Daily News. "We've got that problem solved."

Next to go was second-year right-hander Bob Walk, who filled in nobly when injuries struck the pitching staff. But with veteran right-handers Larry Christenson, Nino Espinosa and Dick Ruthven healthy and rookie September-October hero Marty Bystrom in the rotation, Walk was expendable. He went to the Braves for outfielder Gary Matthews, the right-handed power hitter Green sought to run as an entry with MVP and home-run king Mike Schmidt in the middle of the lineup.

This made Greg Luzinski, plagued by injuries and personality conflicts with Green, excess baggage and he was sold to the Chicago White Sox in a straight cash deal late in the spring.

The Phillies go into the season with out a certifiable weakness.

The lineup is so solid that Sporting News Rookie of the Year Lonnie Smith and good-looking power hitter Keith Moreland will open the season as reserves. Moreland, Smith and Davis give the Phillies excellent hitting from the right-handed side of the bench and Green's left-handed side is blessed by the presence of versatile veterans Del Unser and Greg Gross. The infield of Schmidt, Larry Bowa, Manny Trillo and ageless Pete Rose is unmatched defensively. Right fielder Bake McBride is coming off his finest season and Maddox remains the Secretary of Defense in center. Matthews will be better defensively in left than Luzinski.

Add Cy Young Award winner Steve Carlton and relief ace Tug McGraw and Sparky Lyle to the pitching picture and you have a potential Mona Lisa. One more plus: it is



DALLAS GREEN, the Phillies manager, who has a powerful outfit.

doubtful their barking manager will let them grow complacent.

Montreal, with a younger and possibly even more solid eight than the Phillies, failed to come up with a bull pen hammer in the off-season. Left fielder Ron LeFlore is gone and it is doubtful that rookie Tim Lincecum, a second baseman by trade, can steal as many bases or score as many runs as the man the Expos made no attempt to sign.

The Expos' strength is that they have narrowly missed winning the division the past two seasons with a young cast which can no longer use inexperience as an excuse. The outfield of Raines, Andre Dawson and Warren Cromartie covers more ground than the Royal Canadian Mounties. Scouts say all the swift, Raines must do is put the ball in play to hit 300. Gary Carter is baseball's best catcher and the starting rotation of Steve Rogers, Dave Palmer, Scott Sanderson and strikeout artist Bill Gulikson could throw Maggie Trudeau through a carwash without getting her wet.

Dick Williams' bench will be fortified by rookies from the Denver juggernaut which pulverized the American Association and

includes power-hitting outfielder-third baseman Tim Wallach.

But the bullpen shows its age. Woodie Fryman is a veteran of the French and Indian Wars. Stan Bahnsen and Elias Sosa are on the north side of 30 and neither is in the McGraw, Bruce Sutter class. In mid-March, the Expos looked strong enough to win it, but the Phillies went to the telephone and passed them by.

Whitey Herzog stamped the Dallas winter meetings by making so many deals it will take the Cardinals half a season to get acquainted.

The chief additions were right-handed starter Larry Sorensen, free-agent catcher Darrell Porter and All-World reliever Bruce Sutter. The chief subtractions were catching prospect Terry Kennedy, third baseman Ken Reitz and a tremendous catcher and switch hitter named Ted Simmons.

Insiders feel that Herzog made one deal too many in Dallas, that he should have kept Rollie Fingers, a paperwork Cardinal, to help Sutter and hung onto Simmons, once the hub of an attack which hit for impressive team average but doesn't score all that many runs. Nobody will faint going against a starting rotation of Bob Forsch, Bomb Shirley, Sorensen, Andy Rincon and Silvio Martinez.

A lot of pressure will be on outfielder Sixto Lezcano, the key to the Simmons deal, to pick up the offensive slack. It will not be easy. Sixto is coming off a .229 season in Milwaukee.

The Cardinals were so wretched last season that a move to third place in a strong division would be a significant improvement.

Willie Stargell is 40. Dave Parker is coming off a knee surgery and the starting pitching is suspect, particularly now that Pirate fans won't have Bert Blyleven, the Crying Dutchman to kick around any more.

Chuck Tanner's pitching staff has gone so far south that people are talking about Rick Rhoden, a sore-arm casualty last year, as the potential ace. The left-handed starting candidates behind off-injured John Candelaria include Bob Ojeda and Rod Scurry.

Tanner remains the eternal optimist. He'd boast the mains with a tornado warning in effect. But the Bucs can still sting the ball. Parker had a fine spring and Bill Madlock, Mike Easler, Phil Garner and Lee Lacy are fine offensive players. But the defense has never been of Gold Glove caliber and the pitching staff is ready for a major overhaul.

Which brings up the have-nots, the Mets and Cubs. And of the East's certified, guaranteed doormats. The Mets appear to have the better shot of the two at confounding the experts. Joe Torre's club hit 61 homers last year, good enough to tie Roger Maris' record. This year, prodigal son Dave Kingman and sweet-singing gourmand Rusty Staub should approach that figure by themselves. (To be continued Sunday with the American League, East Division)

In Lufthansa Soccer

Runaway victories

By Laurie Thomas

JEDDAH, April 24 — The Lufthansa Cup moved into the quarterfinal stages last week amidst what appears to be either end of season apathy or unfortunate timing. Of the four matches scheduled in the main competition, two teams conceded walkovers, while in the first round of the plate tournament, one of the two matches was also decided on a walk-over.

Predictions of an upset by FOJP crumbled when they turned out against Hochtiel with only eight players. FOJP also crumbled (although not without a fight), and abandoned the match at halftime, feeling, perhaps not without due cause, that they would not be able to pull back the 8-0 deficit.

For reasons as yet unknown, Whitaker, who last week disposed of favorites Dallah Avco, threw away a probable semifinal place by failing to show up for their quarterfinal match with Sogex. In the other second round matches, Saudia cracked in four goals against

Arabian Homes, who could only reply with one, while AST hammered nine into Whitaker Villa's net. Villa managed their usual number of goals!

The three remaining quarterfinals are scheduled for Sunday and Monday, and see Toyota playing AST, Zahid against Saudia, and Hochtiel facing Asmara. Toyota must feel confident of a win, but the results of the other games are far from easy to decide. Saudia had a bad end of season run which saw them relegated to Division Two, while Zahid have been consistent all season and have proved their cup winning ability by taking the League Cup.

In the plate, Al Hada moved into the second round after Scandinavian Embassy failed to produce eight players for the start of the match. Hada were not, too impressed, having traveled three hours for the match with a similar return journey in front of them. Dallah Avco produced a fine second half display to crush NJIA (2) 6-0.



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**In American League**

**Lemon, Baines star in White Sox's wins**

NEW YORK, April 24 (AP) — The Chicago White Sox took a doubleheader from the Baltimore Orioles 18-5 and 5-3 Thursday as Chet Lemon led a 26-hit barrage in the first game and Harold Baines keyed the second-game triumph.

Lemon collected four hits and drove in four runs in the opener as the White Sox victimized five Baltimore pitchers for the highest total of hits ever against an Oriole team. Baltimore had previously surrendered a high of 24 hits in a June 1978 loss to Toronto.

The White Sox exploded for seven runs in both the fourth and six frames of the opener, sending 12 men to the plate in each inning.

Lemon and Bill Almon, who also finished with four hits, each collected a pair of RBI with singles in the fourth inning.

Right-hander Richard Dotson, who yielded three RBI and a pair of 400-foot homers to Ken Singleton, survived a rocky start to even his record at 1-1.

Baines delivered a two-run single in the fifth inning to lead the White Sox triumph in the second game. The blow wiped out a brief 3-2 Orioles lead forged in the third inning on Singleton's homer.

The only other American League game, between the New York Yankees and Toronto Blue Jays, was rained out.

In the National League, Chris Chambliss doubled home two runs in the fifth inning, breaking a 3-3 tie and helping the Atlanta Braves to a 7-3 victory over the San Francisco Giants.

Tom Seaver pitched 61-3 hitless innings. Dave Concepcion drove in three runs and Oan Driessen provided the game-winning hit in the 10th inning to rally the Cincinnati Reds to a 5-4 victory over the struggling Houston Astros.

In a late game on the West coast, Rick Sutcliffe scattered five hits in eight innings and drove in the game's first run as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the San Diego Padres 3-1.

**Standings**

American League				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
East				
Cleveland	7	3	.667	—
New York	7	4	.636	—
Boston	7	4	.600	½
Detroit	7	5	.583	½
Milwaukee	5	4	.556	1
Baltimore	3	6	.333	3
Toronto	3	9	.250	4½
West				
Oakland	14	1	.933	—
Chicago	7	3	.700	4½
California	6	7	.462	7
Texas	5	6	.455	7
Seattle	4	9	.308	9
Kansas City	2	7	.222	9
Minnesota	2	9	.182	10

**Thais crash to another big defeat**

THAILAND, April 24 (AP) — South Korea trounced Thailand 5-1 in a botched World Cup Football Asian Group Three qualifying round here Friday. The Koreans led 2-1 at half-time.

On Wednesday too, the Thais suffered a big defeat when they went down to Kuwait 0-6.

Abdul Aziz Al-Anbari scored Kuwait's first goal in the ninth minute and the fourth in the 36th minute. Jassem Yacoub scored the second goal in the 13th minute and Fathi Kameel netted the third goal in the 34th minute.

The Thais lost momentum in the second half with their defenders unable to cope with the rival attack.

Mahammed Karam scored the fifth goal in the 62th minute, and Faisal Al-Dakheel netted the final goal in the 80th minute.

**Lindh storms into last 16**

NOVI SAO, Yugoslavia, April 24 (R) — Sweden's Erik Lindh stormed into the last 16 of the men's singles at the World Table-Tennis Championships here Thursday night after starting the event as a qualifier.

Lindh, a 16-year-old student, beat Bulgaria's Ojevat Hasanov in the second round and Hong Sun Chol of South Korea in the third. He was one of nine Europeans to reach the last 16. The seven Asians still in contention included top Chinese seeds Guo Yuehua, Shi Zhibao and Wang Huiyuan.

In the women's singles, China's Huang Junjun provided the major upset by beating top European challenger Jill Hammersley of England in straight sets in the second round.

Lindh, Sweden's top ranked junior, beat China's world No. 8 Xie Saikie in the first round and continued his run with a 21-19, 21-19, 21-12 win over Hasanov and a 21-11, 16-21, 21-16, 21-16, victory over Hong Sun.

He did not play particularly well in the team event last week but he said "I feel more relaxed in the singles and the win over Xie boosted my confidence."

Lindh rated the victory over Xie as his best performance here, but said he was bappy with his form.

Chinese second seed Guo, who is aiming to wipe out the memory of two unsuccessful finals at the previous championships, eliminated Hungary's Zszi Kriston and Ulf Thorsell of Sweden in straight sets.

Shi, China's No. 3, beat Vladislav Broda of Czechoslovakia in straight sets but had to work harder to eliminate Hungary's Gabor Gergely 20-22, 21-16, 21-11, 21-19.

**Dalglish may miss Europe Cup final**

LIVERPOOL, England, April 24 (AP) — Liverpool star Kenny Dalglish is to visit a specialist for treatment to the ankle injury that could force him to miss the European Cup final.

Scottish international Dalglish limped off after only 10 minutes of Liverpool's semifinal against Bayern Munich of West Germany Wednesday night and fears he has damaged ligaments in his left ankle.

The ligament trouble would make him a doubtful starter for Liverpool's meeting with six-time European cup winner Real Madrid in Paris on May 27.

Dalglish already has withdrawn from Scotland's World Cup qualifying match against Israel next week and Liverpool manager Bob Paisley said: "I am worried, but we will just have to wait and see what the specialist says."

Another Liverpool player, centerback and captain Phil Thompson, is still troubled by a knee injury, while midfielder Graeme Souness and striker David Johnson both suffered minor injuries against Bayern. Souness has a calf muscle pull, while Johnson suffered a recurrence of hamstring trouble.

With full back Alan Kennedy ruled out by a broken wrist, Liverpool will be without five regulars for Saturday's League match at

home to Tottenham. Manchester City too has four players fighting to be fit for the F.A. Cup final against Tottenham Hotspur at Wembley May 19.

John Bond, manager of the Manchester Club, announced Thursday that at least four of his probable Cup final team will miss Saturday's League match against Ipswich.

Gerry Gow, Tommy Hutchison, Bobby McDonald and Tommy Caton are all injured, while club captain Paul Power has a slight groin strain.

Meanwhile, Ipswich stars Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen have been recalled for the Netherlands World Cup qualifying tie against Cyprus next Wednesday in Limassol.

**BRIEFS**

EPSOM, England, (AP) — Top British jockey Lester Piggott was recovering in hospital awaiting plastic surgery Thursday night after a spectacular accident at Epsom race-course 15 miles south of London in which he badly damaged an ear and suffered injuries to his back and chest.

PARIS, (AP) — The highest court of international auto racing early Friday declared the controversial Lotus 88 Grand Prix car illegal. The six-man court of appeal of the International Automobile Federation (FIA) — overturned a ruling by the Automobile Competitions Committee of the United States (ACCUS) — which had found the car legal after it had been banned

from the season's first World Championship race at Long Beach, California.

ZURICH, (AFP) — Motor racing sponsor Oavid Thieme, arrested here April 10 on suspicion of fraud, was released on bond Thursday, sources said. Thieme, an American, owns the Monte Carlo-based Essex Overseas Petroleum Company which sponsors the British Formula-One team Lotus.

BREOGNE, Belgium, (AFP) — Belgian cyclist Alfons de Wolf won the fourth stage of the Tour of Belgium race here Thursday, finishing a full three minutes clear of the pack. Former Belgian champion Gerrie Verlinden kept the leader's Jersey while Ireland's Sean Kelly topped the points standings.

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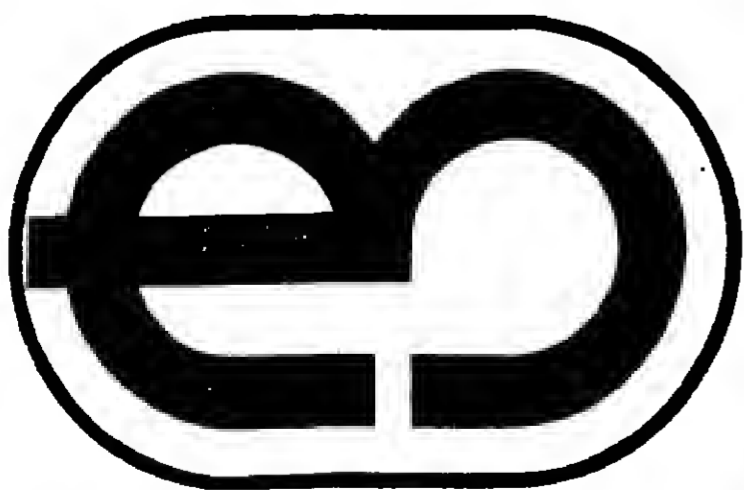
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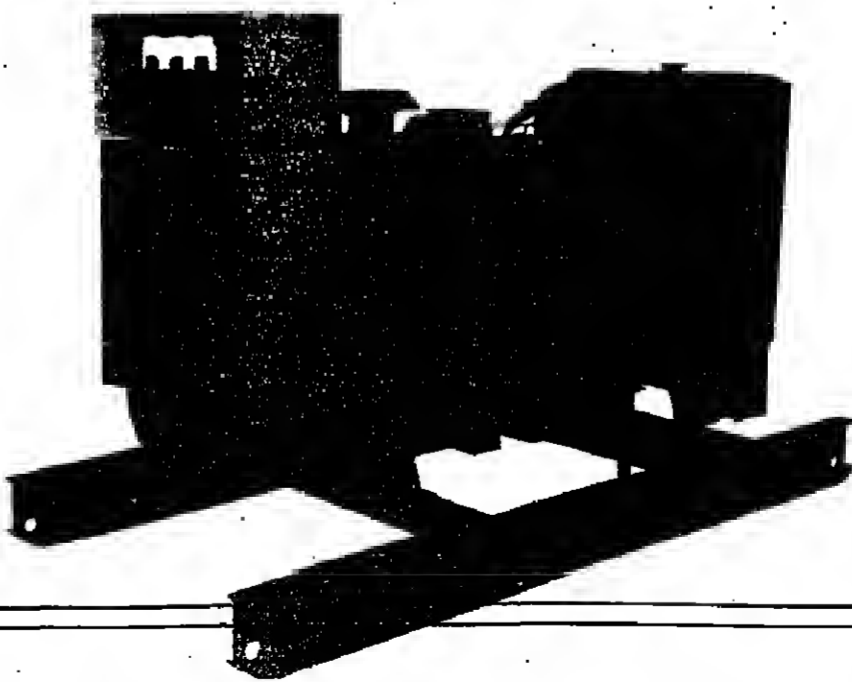
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BEETLE BAILEY comic strip panels 1-4. Characters discuss a game with no announcers and the possibility of doing it without commercials.

BLONDIE comic strip panels 1-4. A character asks for a twenty-dollar bill, and another offers two tens.

B.C. comic strip panels 1-2. A character looks at a dictionary labeled 'WILEY'S DICTIONARY'.

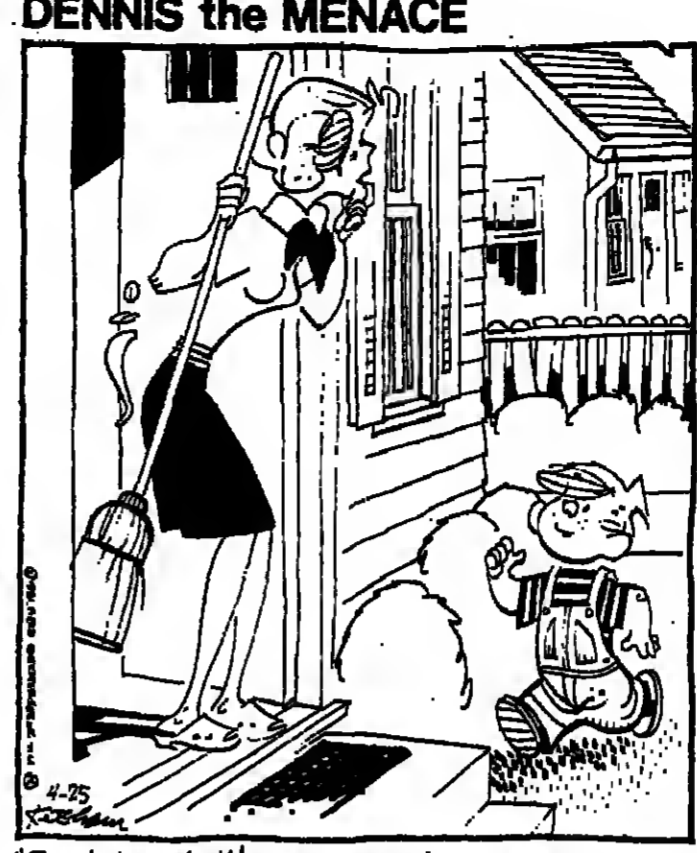
ANDY CAFF comic strip panels 1-4. A character says 'Excuse me, Bill, I'd better sort out his problem'.

HAGAR comic strip panels 1-4. A character asks 'ER... AFTER-DINNER MINT, SIR?'.

SMALL SOCIETY comic strip panels 1-2. A character says 'WE HAVE THREE CLASSES IN THIS COUNTRY. THE HAVES, THE HAVE-NOTS...'.

WIZARD comic strip panels 1-4. A character says 'I'll write down the things about you that bug me...'.

SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS comic strip panels 1-4. A character says 'Free hand at ball in preparing to hit a forehand'.



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Crossword by THOMAS JOSEPH. Includes Across and Down clues and a crossword grid.

Believe It or Not! A riddle about a white-winged dove to protect her young.

CRYPTOQUOTES. A puzzle where one letter stands for another in a sample A.

Your Individual Horoscope

FRANCES DRAKE. FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1981. What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19), TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20), GEMINI (May 21 to June 20), CANCER (June 21 to July 22), LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22), VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22).

Yesterday's Answer. A crossword puzzle grid with solutions for the previous day's puzzle.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE - Here's how to work it! One letter simply stands for another. Includes a sample A and instructions.

arab news CALENDAR. A detailed schedule of programs for various channels including Arab World, BBC, and others, listing times and program titles.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.



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PLATA	V-1	CONT.	5-5-81

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صحيفة سعودية يومية تصدر باللغة الإنجليزية



PAGE 16

السبت ٢١ جماد الثاني ١٤٠١ هـ

Sands going blind, deaf

## Tension mounting in Northern Ireland

BELFAST, April 24 (Agencies) — Jailed Irish guerrilla Bobby Sands entered the 55th day of his hunger strike in a Northern Ireland prison Friday reported by friends to be going blind and deaf and saying he thinks he has about three days to live. Tension in the British-ruled province is mounting as Sands, 27, nears death. A former military reservist was shot dead by gunmen Thursday and police reported sporadic outbreaks of violence in support of Sands in Belfast and the province's second largest city, Londonderry. Sands, who was elected to the British parliament two weeks ago, is serving a 14-year term for terrorism offenses. His fast is part of a campaign for political prisoner status for all Republican prisoners in Northern Ireland. His political agent, Owen Carron, said after visiting him Thursday that he was going deaf and blind. He said Sands told him he thought he had about three or four days to live and was determined not to give up his fast.

Carron told a news conference Sands had agreed to meet members of the European Commission on Human Rights provided they were accompanied by three prominent Republicans. Irish Republic legislators have urged the commission to intervene to save him. A spokesman for the British government, which refuses to grant political status to prisoners it calls criminals and terrorists, said it would consider any approach from Sands to be visited by the commission, but had received no such request. Sands' supporters said the first move lay with the British. His parents met Irish Republic Prime Minister Charles Haughey for 45 minutes Thursday night. No details were disclosed but friends said the couple may have been seeking Haughey's advice about initiating a complaint to the European commission. Britain says a complaint about treatment must be laid before the commission by a prisoner or lawyer before it can act.

### Mediators silent

## Iran to continue war

NICOSIA, April 24 (Agencies) — Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr has said Iran had to continue the war against Iraq because it had received no replies to its conditions for peace from Islamic and nonaligned mediators. Iran's official news agency, Pars, said the president was answering a question during a press conference Thursday on the status of mediation efforts.

mediation efforts by a nine-man Islamic goodwill mission and a four-man delegation representing the nonaligned countries. Both groups shuttled between Tehran and Baghdad in March and early this month in an effort to end the seven-month-old war on the northern flank of the Gulf. Bani-Sadr said he repeated to both groups that Iran's terms for peace were: Iraqi withdrawal to pre-war borders (simultaneously with a ceasefire), investigation of the causes of the war, and settlement of the border dispute with Iraq on the basis of the old treaty. "Since we did not receive any answer, we had to continue the war," Pars quoted him as saying.

## U.K., Germany urge arms talks

BONN, April 24 (AP) — East-West talks on reducing middle range nuclear missiles should begin as soon as possible, Britain and West Germany declared Friday. British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher made the joint declaration at a news conference following two days of talks. They emphasized the offer to negotiate reductions in the missiles remained a part of the NATO decision of December 1979 to deploy U.S.-built Pershing II and Cruise missiles to offset Soviet superiority in the field. During a dinner speech Thursday, Lord Carrington called on European Economic Community members to step up efforts to develop common positions on international issues. "The major advance toward a more united Europe may depend on our ability to develop joint responses to the challenges which face us in other parts of the world," he said.

Meanwhile, senior Islamic clerics have rejected a protest by Bani-Sadr over the Foreign Ministry's recent attack on Islamic peace envoy Habib Chatil, the *Islamic Republic* newspaper reported Thursday. The decision was made by a panel of leading clerics set up by Ayatollah Khomeini to defuse a crisis between the government and Bani-Sadr. It said in a majority vote that the Foreign Ministry, headed by Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai, had not stepped outside its brief. The ruling, the first major decision by the panel, was a clear defeat for Bani-Sadr. The president maintains that all opinions that affect the slow-moving Gulf war peace efforts should be cleared by his supreme defense council.



SET FREE: Great train robber Ronald Biggs is all smiles as he hugs his attorneys, Ezra Alleyne, (left) and Alair Shepherd (right) after he was set free Thursday by the Barbados high Court, turning down British request for extradition.

## German claims reversing cancer

WASHINGTON, April 24 (AP) — A West German researcher says she has reversed the growth of liver cancer in rats by using a harmless chemical found in plant and animal cells. "To my knowledge, the growth of fully transformed malignant cells being reversed by administration of a chemical compound has not been reported previously," said a report published Friday in the May 1 issue of *Science* magazine. The author said the effect of this chemical on liver cancer in rats "strongly suggests" that it "merits further investigation as a potential anti-tumor agent in humans."

Anna M. Novi of Dusseldorf University said she induced liver cancer in female Wistar rats by feeding them aflatoxin-B, a potent cancer-causing agent, for eight weeks. Sixteen months afterward, at the time adverse effects of liver tumors normally become evident, 21 rats started getting daily oral treatment with a compound called reduced glutathione.

Of the 33 rats that received the cancer-causing chemical and no treatment, all died of liver cancer. But 81 per cent of those given glutathione remained alive and apparently healthy by the time all the untreated animals had died, the scientist wrote. At autopsy, the livers of the untreated rats were deformed with tumors.

## Biggs returns to Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, April 24 (AP) — Ronald Biggs, the British "great train robber," walked out of the Rio airport Friday as a free man, with a guarantee from the Brazilian government that he can continue to reside in this South American country. Biggs entered Brazilian territory in Belem, at the mouth of the Amazon River, in a chartered jet from the Caribbean island country of Barbados, where kidnapers took him last month; apparently in an attempt to get him extradited to Britain. He was routinely checked in by the federal police and customs officials, a Belem airport spokesman said. "It was a normal entry," he said. Biggs arrived at 5:55 a.m. — 3:55 a.m. EST — at the airport. The spokesman said Biggs left his chartered plane and switched to a commercial flight to Rio De Janeiro, 2,000 miles to the south. Meanwhile, the supervisor of Rio's Galeao Airport, Luiz Mazinho, said that federal police planned to take Biggs directly from the runway to their Rio office for questioning about his kidnapping from a Rio bar last month. The Barbados Supreme Court, overturning a lower court decision, ruled Thursday that the British fugitive could not be returned to Britain because the Barbados parliament had not yet ratified an extradition treaty with the United Kingdom. Britain asked for Biggs' extradition so he could finish serving 28 years of a 30-year sentence for his part in the 1963 robbery of \$7.2 million from a London-Glasgow mail train.

The 51-year-old Briton, who escaped from a British prison in 1965, has a son by a Brazilian woman and because of the child, Brazilian law protects him from deportation. A delighted six-year-old Michael Biggs waited anxiously in Rio for his father's return. Michael, whose mother works as a nightclub dancer in Switzerland, has been staying with a local couple since his father was kidnapped. Brazilian authorities said Biggs would be allowed to return to his status of "provisional liberty," in which he is required to report periodically to police. After the Barbados Supreme Court ruled in his favor, Biggs took refuge under tight security in the Brazilian Embassy to ward off any further attempts to return him to Britain — legal or otherwise. Since Barbados is a Commonwealth nation, authorities said the court's decision could be appealed to London. But neither Barbados nor British authorities appeared eager to pursue the matter. In London, a government spokesman said there was no official comment yet, but former Scotland Yard Chief Detective Superintendent Jack Slipper, who chased Biggs for years, said he would have taken no satisfaction from having the fugitive returned after he was the victim of a kidnap. There was no immediate comment from John Miller, head of the British security firm who claimed he was paid to abduct Biggs. The train robber's autobiography, *The Ronny Biggs Story*, was published shortly after his arrival in Barbados. The event has been viewed in some quarters as more than coincidence. Two of the 14 gang members who staged the great train robbery with Biggs said they were thrilled with his luck, and they said the gang members in Britain will be getting together to celebrate.

## Polish crisis serious, Soviets say

MOSCOW, April 24 (Agencies) — A leading Soviet newspaper stressed on Friday the seriousness of the Polish situation and warned that maintaining the Socialist system in any one country is the "common cause" of the entire Socialist bloc. The commentary in the newspaper *Sovets - kava Rossiya*, whose publishers include the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, followed Thursday's sudden visit to Poland by Mikhail A. Suslov, the Soviet party's top ideologist. Suslov and his Polish hosts called for the unity of "all patriotic forces" against internal and external threats to Russian Socialism.

The daily added that those who try to stir up anti-Socialist campaigns in Poland should remember that "the maintenance of the Socialist system is the affair of each of the Socialist states, but at the same time, also the common cause of the Socialist fraternity." This principle, known as the "Brezhnev Doctrine," was one of the announced justifications for Soviet bloc intervention in Czechoslovakia in 1968. Suslov returned here Friday from Warsaw, Tass news agency reported.

## 17 die in Indian collision

NEW DELHI, April 24 (AFP) — Seventeen passengers were killed and 63 injured, 32 of them critically, in a collision between two suburban electric trains in Bombay Friday, the Press Trust of India news agency reported. All of the old city of Kandahar is still under control of the liberators who prior to April 13 also held all parts of the old and new cities plus the cantonment area, the informant said. In addition to Kandahar, sources said cities currently or earlier under liberators' control included Baghlan and Bamian, capitals of provinces with the same names, and Faizabad, capital of Badakhshan.

## Good Morning

By Jihad Al Khazen  
Car drivers go to any length to avoid paying the fines they incur through the offenses they commit on the road. This is true the world over. But here in London the major fine avoiders are foreign embassies, whose drivers use their diplomatic immunity to transform London's busy streets into one happy parking lot. The other day, however, one such driver went too far. The car belonged to an African embassy, and so had immunity. The driver parked it where he shouldn't and was told so by the police. But he merely pointed to his "C.D." plates. They said it won't do and he would have to leave. Otherwise they write him a ticket. "Write the ticket," said the proud man. He then took it and tore it and threw the pieces in their faces. Whereupon the police, according to their version "remonstrated" with him. This must have taken a piquant form, for it led the man to attack them physically. One officer was bitten and the other kicked. The man then claimed diplomatic immunity. The police, however, were incensed enough to drag him to court, immunity or no immunity. Which led to a historic ruling, as far as the long-suffering traffic police are concerned, at least. It turned out that diplomatic cars in themselves have no immunity. They become immune, so to speak, only when your actual ambassador or high official is in them. If you want to park your embassy car illegally, therefore, you'd better make sure an ambassador is in it for the duration. Since in this case the driver was only a driver, he was fined first for illegal parking, and second, more substantially, for assaulting the police officers.  
Translated from Ashrag Al Awsat

## Fighters control 4 Afghan capitals

NEW DELHI, April 24 (AP) — A U.S. State Department statement that no provincial capital of Afghanistan has ever fallen to freedom fighters has been disputed by separate Afghan sources in India who named four capitals which they said are or have been under liberators' control. The same state capitals have also been mentioned by news reports from various sources in India and Pakistan as being ruled by the freedom fighters at various times before or after the arrival in December, 1979, of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Two Afghan travelers to India said that when they left Afghanistan last week Kandahar, a provincial capital of 200,000, had been in liberators' hands for about two months, and government officials had taken refuge at the air base 17 kms outside the city. An Afghan exile residing here said Kandahar had been completely under liberators' control for at least a week, until 10 days ago when it was encircled by Soviet and government troops who recaptured some of the main roads and bazaars. All of the old city of Kandahar is still under control of the liberators who prior to April 13 also held all parts of the old and new cities plus the cantonment area, the informant said. In addition to Kandahar, sources said cities currently or earlier under liberators' control included Baghlan and Bamian, capitals of provinces with the same names, and Faizabad, capital of Badakhshan.

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## From page 1

Yamani said of the AWACS. He contended the Israelis had "made an issue out of it so they can milk more out of it from the United States." Yamani also said the Kingdom felt some "bitterness" because of America's "extreme support for Israel and its expansionist policies." In another development, a group of prominent Zionist leaders, told that the decision to sell the arms package to Saudi Arabia is final, said moves are already underway to block it

in Congress. Howard Squadron, chairman of the conference of Presidents of American Jewish organizations, said the Jewish groups would pull out all stops to lobby members of Congress with letters, telephone calls and personal contacts. Squadron and about 30 other Zionist leaders met with Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to "express our concern" over the arms deal. He said the group represents a cross-section of the nation's Jewish population. "It has already begun to allocate assignments and decide what kind of arguments will be presented and so on... and when the times is appropriate, naturally Senators and Congressmen will be visited..." He said they will also fight the sale of equipment to enhance the capability of a fleet of F-15 jet aircraft as well as the sale of five AWACS. Earlier Israeli sources had signaled they would not fight the F-15 equipment. But Reagan's decision to include the AWACS in the package has apparently changed the strategy. Squadron said the F-15 equipment, would convert those airplanes from defensive to offensive weapons and violate a commitment of the former Carter administration in 1978 against providing such equipment. "That is a commitment we believe this administration should honor." He said. He added that "whatever commitments were made to the Kingdom, we do not think they should have higher priority than that." Squadron indicated the Zionist groups would be less opposed to the AWACS sale if the aircraft were kept partly under American control.

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